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CDC awards NMI \$1.1M for COVID-19 programs

Sgt. Diana Sandoval, assigned to 25th Infantry Division, administers a COVID-19 vaccine in support of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s COVID-19 vaccination team at the Medical Care and Treatment Site.

U.S. NAVY/BRAD RUSZALA

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded the CNMI \$1,117,005 to support local efforts to increase vaccine uptake by expanding COVID-19 vaccine programs and ensuring greater equity and access to vaccine by those disproportionately affected by SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

AT A GLANCE

As of 5pm, April 7, 2021

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,827	1	7,828
Recovered	7,661	1	7,662
Active	29	1	30
Deaths	136	0	136
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	143,752		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	159	1	160
Traced via Travel Screening	123	0	123
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	26,131*		
Days since last community transmission	22		

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Saipan:	Tinian:	Rota:
Dose 1: 16,221	Dose 1: 953	Dose 1: 944
Dose 2: 11,657	Dose 2: 658	Dose 2: 735

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

» **CNMI's total now at 160 after 1 new case**

One incoming traveler was confirmed positive for COVID-19 yesterday, bringing the total COVID-19 count for the CNMI to 160 individuals since March 28, 2020.

See CDC on **Page 4**

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

Revenue-generating proposals estimated to increase govt's gross resources by \$17.9M

» **'PPP play vital role in helping CNMI move forward'**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

By implementing new rates and taxes outlined in last year Fiscal Response Summit, the

CNMI government's gross resources is estimated to increase by \$17.9 million, according to Margaret C. Torres, who was the acting

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RB Camacho to run anew for Saipan mayor

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Board of Parole chair Ramon Blas "RB" Camacho disclosed

yesterday that he wants to run again for Saipan mayor in the November 2022 general elections.

See **CAMACHO** on **Page 4**

NZ to open travel bubble with Australia on April 19



A ferry sails past the Opera House in Sydney, Australia, Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

By **NICK PERRY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—New Zealand announced Tuesday it will open a long-anticipated travel bubble with Australia on April 19 now that both countries have been successful in stamping out the spread of the coronavirus.

The start of quarantine-free travel between the neighboring nations will come as a re-

See **BUBBLE** on **Page 4**

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Saipan Toys LLC is moving to As Teo and is holding a relocation sale.

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NATION

President Joe Biden is making all adults in the U.S. eligible for coronavirus vaccines.

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LIFE & STYLE

A famous Norwegian statue of a baby boy stomping his feet in anger is vandalized in Oslo.

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Local

OPA tracks 36 audits; 27 recommendations unresolved

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor has tracked a total of 36 audit and inspection recommendations it issued against CNMI agencies as of Dec. 31, 2020, and found that nine have been resolved while 27 remain unresolved.

Of the 27 unresolved audit and inspection recommendations, 20 are from the Department of Finance. Both the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Public Lands have resolved all their audit and inspection recommendations, according to the OPA report.

Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig said yesterday that of the 20 unresolved from Finance, they agree with OPA and many are being worked on with a Corrective Action Plan.

Atalig said many will be resolved with the Financial Management Information System, which will replace their outdated JD Edwards.

He said many findings are due to the lack of or insufficient system to keep up with monitoring and management

of the findings.

"We thank OPA for keeping us in line and on our toes to do the right thing and move forward in ensuring we are prudent with our systems, processes and funds," Atalig said.

In her report on CNMI agencies' implementation of audit recommendations, Public Auditor Kina B. Peter said OPA sent follow-up emails and called government agencies whose audit and inspection recommendations remain unresolved as of Dec. 31, 2020.

"Based upon our review, nine audit and inspection recommendations were resolved," said Peter in her report addressed to the Inter-agency Audit Coordinating Advisory Group. That group is composed of Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), House minority leader Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), Finance Secretary David Atalig, and special assistant for the Office of Management and Budget Virginia C. Villagomez.

OPA maintains an audit

recommendations tracking system to monitor the implementation and resolution of audit and inspection recommendations. OPA

issues on a semi-annual basis its report on CNMI agencies' implementation and resolution of audit and inspection recommendations, referred to as the Audit Recommendations Tracking System report. The ARTS report presents the audited agencies' implementation of OPA recommendations.



Peter

Under the law, the Coordinating Advisory Group's task is to review all audit reports of the Public Auditor, and the Public Auditor will discuss the manner in which audit recommendations can be implemented with the assistance of the group's members. The group shall also recommend to the governor and to the Legislature any changes in laws or regulations that it finds necessary or desirable as a result of its work with the Public Auditor.

Peter said OPA has not received any request for consultation from the group since 2000.

However, she said, OPA has been issuing follow-up letters, email messages, and/or contacting agencies with outstanding recommendations to request for information on corrective actions taken to implement OPA's audit and inspection recommendations.

Peter said when requested, OPA staff meets with agency officials to discuss and clarify actions required to address OPA's audit and inspection recommendations.

A resolved recommendation is one in which OPA is satisfied that the client has taken corrective action to meet the intent of the recommendation or OPA has withdrawn from it. An unresolved recommendation is one in which the client cannot take immediate action or OPA has not been informed by the agency or department of any action taken to address the recommendation.

The 11 resolved recommendations are one each on audit of the Department of Finance's government travel

See OPA on Page 4

UOG's Dahilig accepted into conservation program

University of Guam student Kyle A. Dahilig is one of 20 students to be accepted into the 2021 cohort of the Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program through the University of California-Santa Cruz. The program is a selective multi-year undergraduate research experience designed for students with high potential to make sustained contributions as innovators and leaders in the field of environ-

mental conservation and who will also increase diversity in the field.

Dahilig will join his class of 19 other scholars in an eight-week intensive field course from June to August this summer followed by an eight-week paid internship at a conservation organization or agency of his choice in Summer 2022.



Dahilig

'Rooted in environmental activism'

Dahilig is majoring in integrative biology with a minor in tropical horticulture. He serves as president of the UOG Green

Army student organization, as youth ambassador for the Guam Green Growth initiative, as communications director for the Guam Youth

Climate Strike, and on the environmental committee of the Guam Youth Congress. Additionally, he authors a blog called The Color Earth about his environmental work.

"Being rooted in environmental activism and now studying the academics of conservation have proven to me that advocating for zero waste and participating in coastal cleanups is just the

See UOG's on Next Page

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LWA name list to be sent to Finance

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Of 8,000 plus who applied to avail of the Lost Wages Assistance Program, the CNMI Department of Labor will be sending a list of 6,909 names who have been found eligible to the Department of Finance in the next few days.

In an interview, Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said that DOL vetted 8,473 applicants and they have identified 6,909 applicants who are eligible for LWA. This list will be turned to Finance in the next few days.

Under the LWA program, the federal government will provide \$300 per person per month to eligible claimants from the week of unemployment ending Aug. 1, 2020.

According to Benavente, eligible applicants will get \$900 for the whole three weeks, while eligible applicants for two weeks will get \$600 and for one week, \$300. Benavente said the payments will be given as a lump sum check.

Benavente said DOL will be processing the LWA within the next couple of weeks. "Essentially, there'll be about \$6 million in benefits to be issued for these applicants who are eligible for the Lost Wages Assistance Program," said Benavente.

For the remaining 1,564 who weren't found eligible, that was because of their employment status or for being a foreign worker at that time. Several have been denied due to outright fraudulent claims. Benavente

UOG'S

From Page 2

beginning—that we should be stewards through many ways for the environment," he said.

An intensive two-year experience

The Doris Duke scholars will engage in sessions on leadership, team building, conflict management, cross-cultural communication, and visioning for the future. They will also get to tour five reserves across California—including Point Reyes National Seashore, the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab, and James San Jacinto Mountains Reserve—to explore issues in conservation and master the research leadership process.

In light of the ongoing pandemic, the program is planning pre-travel and arrival safety measures for the scholars and

See UOG's on Next Page

said some claims are not within the CNMI and no documents or identification were attached to the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance portal.

The LWA Program grants come from Federal Emergency Management Agency and its intended beneficiaries are workers who have had re-

duced hours due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the CNMI government started distribut-

ing the \$7.7 million that was approved for the CNMI's LWA program after President Joseph Biden approved the CNMI's request to waive the

25% matching fund requirement last March 23.

The CNMI was approved for \$7.7 million for LWA last Sept. 16, 2020.



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10,640 MILES • STK: 18HS946 • KBB: \$20,609

2017 TOYOTA TACOMA SR 2WD

SALE PRICE **\$26,995**

29,786 MILES • STK: 17P135 • KBB: \$27,334

2018 MAZDA MAZDA3 SPORT

SALE PRICE **\$14,995**

7,910 MILES • STK: 8HS875 • KBB: \$19,496

2017 MAZDA CX-5 GT EXT

SALE PRICE **\$18,995**

45,271 MILES • STK: 20D126A • KBB: \$19,912

2017 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER 4WD

SALE PRICE **\$69,995**

28,046 MILES • STK: 17P310 • KBB: \$72,425

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44,751 MILES • STK: 17P305 • KBB: \$17,242

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BUBBLE

From Page 1

lief to families who have been separated by the pandemic as well as to struggling tourist operators.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said health officials believe the risk of the virus being transmitted from Australia is low and that travel is now safe.

“The bubble will give our economic recovery a boost and represents a world-leading arrangement of safely opening up international travel while continuing to pursue a strategy of elimination and keeping the virus out,” Ardern said.

Australia had previously allowed New Zealanders to arrive with-

out going into quarantine but New Zealand had taken a more cautious approach, requiring travelers from Australia to spend two weeks in quarantine upon arrival.

Both countries have managed to keep out the virus by putting up barriers to the outside world, including strict quarantine requirements for travelers from countries where the virus is rampant.

The announcement comes ahead of the New Zealand ski season and was welcome news for many tourist towns, including the ski resort of Queenstown.

Mal Price, co-owner of The Cow restaurant in Queenstown, said the number of customers was down by about 80% this year.

“Hallelujah. Business will be

back,” he said. “Every business will have hope now that they can survive. It really has been dire.”

The Cow is among the oldest eateries in the region after opening its doors more than 40 years ago. Price said he’d survived by no longer offering lunches most weekdays and reducing staff numbers and hours.

He said there were thousands of Australians who owned holiday homes in the area who were desperate to visit after missing the ski season last year.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison told reporters it was an important first step for Australia as the nation slowly begins returning to normal.

“The fact that we can now combine again will mean jobs, it will

mean people reunited, it will mean many opportunities as those normal relations are restored between Australia and New Zealand,” he said.

Morrison is expected to travel soon to New Zealand to meet with Ardern.

Ardern cautioned that the travel bubble comes with a warning: Flyer beware.

“People will need to plan for the possibility of having travel disrupted if there is an outbreak,” she said.

That means travelers could temporarily be stranded in either country or be required to quarantine.

Although the bubble will open up spaces at New Zealand quarantine facilities, the country is not planning to increase the number of travelers it accepts from other nations as it continues its cautious ap-

proach to the virus.

And Ardern said that New Zealand is not currently considering travel bubbles with any other countries, aside from the tiny Pacific nations of the Cook Islands and Niue, both of which have strong constitutional ties with New Zealand.

Airlines reacted quickly by announcing a big increase in flight numbers and lower prices.

Air New Zealand CEO Greg Foran, who started last year just as the pandemic was hitting after serving five years as Walmart’s CEO, said he was looking forward to meeting some of his new grandchildren.

“I’ll certainly be digging out my passport for the first time since I joined the airline to head across the ditch to see my family,” he said.

CDC

From Page 1

The individual was identified through travel screening and confirmed diagnosis through fifth-day testing. The individual is safely in quarantine and is asymptomatic.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Communicable Disease Investigation/Inspection team has initiated contact tracing for contacts with the highest risk of exposure.

■■■

The grant award is part of \$3 billion in funding that CDC has granted to 64 jurisdictions to bolster broad-based vaccine distribution, access, and administration efforts. The funding was made available by the American Rescue Plan and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and will provide critical support through CDC’s existing immunization cooperative agreements in communities around the country.

“We are doing everything we can to expand access to vaccinations,” said CDC director Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH. “Millions of Americans are getting vaccinated every day, but we need to ensure that we are reaching those in the communities hit hardest by this pandemic. This investment will support state and local health departments and community-based organizations as they work on the frontlines to increase vaccine access, acceptance, and uptake.”

To ensure health equity and expanded access to COVID-19 vaccines:

■ 75% of the total funding must

focus on specific programs and initiatives intended to increase vaccine access, acceptance, and uptake among racial and ethnic minority communities; and,

■ 60% must go to support local health departments, community-based organizations, and community health centers.

For example, funds could be used to identify and train trusted members of the community to conduct door-to-door outreach to raise awareness about COVID-19 vaccines and help individuals sign up for appointments. Funds may also be used to support hiring community health workers who perform culturally-competent bilingual health outreach so they can provide people who are receiving care with the information they need to get a free vaccination.

These awards are part of ongoing efforts by CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to increase public education, awareness, and access to COVID-19 vaccines and strengthen health equity.

■ Last week, HHS launched the COVID-19 Community Corps—a nationwide, grassroots network of community leaders people know and trust, to encourage Americans to get vaccinated. Community Corps members will receive weekly updates on the latest scientific and medical updates, talking points about the vaccine, social media suggestions, infographics, factsheets with timely and accurate information, and tools to help people get registered for an appointment and vaccinated. The Community Corps launched on Thursday, April 1 with over 275 founding members, and as

of Friday, April 2, more than 3,000 had already signed up.

■ CDC plans to award more than \$250 million to community-based organizations serving minority or underserved communities to support their COVID-19 outreach efforts, including connecting members of the community with health services and vaccinations.

■ The HHS Office of Minority Health is also investing \$250 million to encourage COVID-19 safety and vaccination among underserved populations in minority communities.

■ HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration, will invest more than \$6 billion from the American Rescue Plan into Community Health Centers nationwide to expand COVID-19 vaccinations, testing, and treatment for vulnerable populations.

■ CDC announced a plan to invest \$2.25 billion to address COVID-19-related health disparities and advance health equity among high-risk and underserved populations through grants to public health departments.

■ CDC also plans to provide \$300 million to jurisdictions for community health worker services to support COVID-19 prevention and control and address disparities in access to COVID-19 related services, such as testing, contact tracing, and vaccinations, as well as an additional \$32 million for training, technical assistance, and evaluation.

For information on where funds will be distributed, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/funding-update.pdf>. (PR)

RESOURCES

From Page 1

Finance chief at that time.

Torres’ report on revenue-generating activities that were proposed at the April 2020 summit, which was attached to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres’ proposed budget for the CNMI government for fiscal year 2022, outlined a raft of additional revenue-generating proposals that would further boost the government’s finances.

The summit’s proposal to increase remittance tax will have an estimated effect of \$3.82 million; a 2% sales tax will generate \$7.78 million; a “sin” tax on sugar beverages, alcohol, and

others will translate to \$3.39 million; and a \$1 increase on cigarettes (tobacco) products will generate \$2.92 million—for a total of \$17,930,503, the report stated.

“The overall effects of these revenue-generating activities are dependent on numerous factors, such as legislative action, administrative employment, and economic climate and behavior,” said Margaret C. Torres in her fiscal year 2022 general revenue estimates dated March 12, 2021, and addressed to the special assistant for Management and Budget.

Margaret C. Torres said the creation of the Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors means the CNMI has fostered new programs that can aid in the recovery, among

these the creation of the Public and Private Partnerships program.

These PPPs, she said, have rehabilitated the CNMI’s tourism and recreational areas such as walkways, parks, and gymnasiums. “These types of programs play a pivotal role in helping the CNMI move forward,” Margaret C. Torres said.

Due to the lack of historical data, she said, the Department of Finance did not take into consideration these programs for fiscal year 2022.

The administration’s proposed budget identified gross resources of \$144.84 million for the operations of the government and related agencies for fiscal year 2022. The governor submitted his proposed budget to the Legislature last Thursday.

CAMACHO

From Page 1

Camacho, 62, said in a telephone interview that if the Democratic Party will not endorse his candidacy, he will run as an independent.

“I’m not running for the mayor’s salary but to promote safety and a healthy community,” he said. If elected, he wants to make the community involved in these programs.

Among his priorities are to create a Neighborhood Watch against criminality and an Adopt-a-Place program not only on the highways but also in villages. Camacho said he will clean and beautify the island. He said he will put up an award incentive program such as the cleanest village and fewest crime village, among other recognitions.

OPA

From Page 2

policy, inspection of the Department of Public Safety’s Confidential Informant Fund, audit of DPS’ Evidence Facility, audit of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.’s Patient Revenue Cycle, three on inspection of the Department of Public Lands’ lease, and two on audit of DPL’s land leases and temporary permits.

The 27 unresolved are nine on the

UOG’S

From Page 3

the field course will be carried out in an isolated “bubble.”

The summer experience will allow opportunities for the scholars to interact with diverse conservation leaders, scientists, communicators, and entrepreneurs. They will also have life-long mentorship and support within the program and the alumni network of UCSC.

“... Knowing that conservation isn’t quick and easy,” Dahilig said, “finding mentors and a program that go beyond one summer is the best fit for me.”

For his internship next summer, Dahilig said he is interested in teaming with the Natural Resources Defense Council or The Wildlife Conservation Society.

“Kyle is a careful thinker and has all the characteristics that will allow

audit of Finance’s Hotel Occupancy Tax, two on the audit of Finance’s government travel policy, two on the audit of Finance’s government vehicles, five on the audit of Finance’s fuel contract, three on the Commonwealth Election Commission’s inspection of ballot accountability, one on the audit of CHCC’s Patient Revenue Cycle, three on the audit of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources’ Outer Cove Marina, and two on the audit of Finance’s excise taxes.

him to succeed in any area he chooses,” said Daniel Lindstrom, Dahilig’s biology professor and advisor. “I am certain he will absorb all the Doris Duke program has to offer and put it to good use this summer as well as in his promising academic career in the future.”

Eventually, Dahilig said he can see himself caring for a botanical garden and working on local flora conservation and outreach projects.

“I want to help in every way I can to mitigate biodiversity destruction in the region and empower communities to adapt to the changing world,” he said. “I look forward to mobilizing the community through environmental education and promoting citizen science.”

Dahilig is the fourth UOG student to be accepted in the program, following Annette Ludwig, who was accepted into UCSC’s first cohort in 2016, Serena Barasi in 2019, Michael A. Fernandez in 2020. (UOG)

‘12,800 applicants will be eligible for 2nd round of PUA’

By **JUSTINE NAUTA**
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A total of 12,800 applicants for the second round of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance/Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation will be eligible, according to Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente.

In an interview with Benavente, she said DOL has been

carefully looking over the 12,800 applications, which “looks like they will all be eligible.”

“Most of these applicants have already submitted their documentation to update their employment status, copies of paychecks if needed, copies of time records, work records,” said Benavente. An estimated \$90 million of PUA disburse-

ments will be made within the next several weeks.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, DOL reported that 13,801 PUA applicants were found eligible last Dec. 28, 2020. This time around, Benavente said those numbers have dropped to 12,800 because most have either gone back to work, have part-time or full-time schedules, did not

apply for PUA, or have relocated to the U.S. mainland.

As for the first round of PUA, Benavente said there are 1,900 applicants who remain pending for the first round but 99% of those applicants are deemed fraudulent claims.

“These are not people from the CNMI. These are people from outside of the CNMI who had IP addresses, out-

side of the Commonwealth and those were repeatedly flagged as fraudulent claims [that were] given over to our partners in the integrity data hub, so that they have a list of names and possible addresses to investigate for fraudulent claims,” said Benavente.

She said DOL is working to make sure that it follows all the guidelines that were presented by federal partners, which helps them make sure they show proof

that DOL is doing all they can to prevent fraudulent claims.

For those who have yet to receive their benefit payments, Benavente encourages applicants to go up to the PUA headquarters on Capital Hill, building 1334, between 8am and 3pm.

According to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the PUA program has been extended, with modifications, from March 14 to Sept. 6.

Kilili says ‘Insular Cases’ should be rejected

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) has introduced a House resolution that seeks to acknowledge that the U.S. Supreme Court’s decisions in the Insular Cases in 1901 and the “territorial incorporation doctrine” are contrary to the text and history of the U.S. Constitution, and should be rejected as having no place in U.S. constitutional law.

Sablan, who is the original sponsor of H.R. 279, said in his social media page that the “Insular Cases” decided in 1901 by the same Supreme Court that upheld segregation laws, have no place in modern-day America.

Insular Cases refer to a series of U.S. Supreme Court opinions about the status of U.S. territories acquired in the Spanish-American War and the periods shortly after. In these cases, Sablan said, the Supreme Court calls people living in U.S. territories “alien” and “savage and rest-

less people”—which he said are “antiquated notions of racial inferiority that should not be the basis of any contemporary court decisions.”

“Our resolution recognizes these racist and imperialist assumptions for what they are,” he said.

The other sponsors of H.R. 279 are Natural Resources Committee chair Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-Arizona), Reps.

» **H.R. 279 calls on courts, DOJ to reject continued reliance on Insular Cases**

Michael San Nicolas (D-Guam), Stacey Plaskett (D-Virgin Islands), Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon (R-Puerto Rico), Nydia Velazquez (D-New York), Jesus Garcia (D-Illinois), and Ritchie Torres (D-New York).

The resolution has been referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, in addition to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

In a separate press statement, Grijalva said he and his committee plan to host a legislative hearing in May to discuss the resolution.

Sablan said the resolution rejects the Insular Cases and

affirms the importance of equal rights for Americans everywhere, even in the U.S. insular areas.

Sablan said the decisions in the Insular Cases and the “territorial incorporation doctrine” rest on racial views and stereotypes from the era of *Plessy v. Ferguson* that have long been rejected and are contrary to the nation’s most basic constitutional and democratic principles.

The resolution argues that these cases rely on a racist, *Plessy*-era doctrine of “separate and unequal” to establish the relationship between the U.S. and its territories, made clear by the inclusion of deeply offensive language such as “alien races” and “people with an uncivilized race” when referring to people living in U.S. territories.

The resolution calls on the courts, the U.S. Department of Justice, and other litigants to reject any continued reliance on the Insular Cases in present and future cases because the racially grounded holdings

in the Insular Cases are contrary to the text and history of the Constitution and have no modern relevance.

“The legacy of the Insular Cases—an unequal legal and political relationship between the U.S. and the territories—continues to threaten the

rights and interests of Americans living in the territories,” Sablan said.

He said part of this legacy is evident in the continued exclusion of U.S. citizens living in the territories from essential federal programs and benefits—an exclusion that multiple federal courts have questioned in recent years.

The delegate cited three cases—*U.S. v. Vaello Madero*; *Schaller v. U.S. Social Security Administration*; and the *Pena Martinez v. U.S. Department of Health & Human Service*.

He said in *Madero’s* case, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit unanimously declared unconstitutional the denial of Supplemental Security Income benefits to U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico. Sablan said the U.S. Supreme Court has taken this case up for review, with argument likely set



Sablan

in October 2021.

In *Schaller’s* case, a federal district court judge delivered a similar ruling for residents in Guam.

In *Martinez’s* case, it declared unconstitutional not just the exclusion of Puerto Rico residents from Social Security Income, but also their exclusion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Medicare Part D low-income subsidies.

Sablan said the ongoing discrimination against citizens in U.S. territories reinforces the need to stop relying on the discredited assumptions about people living in U.S. territories and antiquated notions of racial inferiority on which

they were based.

Sablan said the resolution is supported by Equally American, a nonpartisan organization that advocates for equal rights and representation for the 3.5 million citizens living in U.S. territories and the American Civil Liberties Union.

ACLU senior staff attorney Adriel Cepeda Derieux said the Insular Cases rest on explicit white supremacist beliefs of non-white people’s inferiority. “They are dangerous relics that stand for the continued second-class status of millions of American citizens. We must reject and eradicate the Insular Cases from law,” Derieux said.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID
ITB21-CHCC/FACILITY-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 19th, 2021 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

“PROCUREMENT OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERA SYSTEM”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (SAIPAN)
Has an opening for
Accountant

Core Responsibilities:

- Demonstrate and execute accounting controls and principles.
- Maintain accurate general ledger and preparing month-end P&L and financial statements
- Work and collaborate with a small team.
- Complete and manage daily site audits for accuracy.
- Complete bank account reconciliations in a timely manner.
- Prepare timely BGR tax reports.
- Accurately interpret financials and data.
- Manage business using Quick Books accounting program.
- Must learn NAV POS and Backoffice system.
- Adhere to and meet strict reporting deadlines.
- Manage Accounts payable and Accounts receivable
- Reports directly to the owner.

Core Skills:

- Must demonstrate excellent Microsoft Word, Excel and QuickBooks skills.
- Must demonstrate ability to effectively in English communicate verbally and in writing.
- 5 years accounting experience on Saipan.
- Must have a 4-year accounting degree.
- On island references & police clearance required

E-mail Resume and References to islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com and deltaspn@pticom.com

BAKERY MANAGER

Function of Job:
The Bakery Manager will be responsible for a bakery operation, to include the production of quality baked goods according to stringent deadlines, based on a precise knowledge of latest baking technology and careful control of available resources. The Bakery Manager will supervise and coordinate the activity of staff in bakeries and perform tasks such as budgeting, ordering supplies, recruiting and training employees, implementing safety measures, and promoting the bakery to potential clients.

Characteristic Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Plan, schedule and supervise bakery production, shipping and cleaning activities to highest safety and sanitation standards.
2. Supervise, evaluate, train and schedule work of bakery staff.
3. Order and arrange for correct ingredients, supplies and equipment using computerized system.
4. Be responsible for consolidation of product orders from users.
5. Assure the proper use and care by staff of a large variety of highly specialized production equipment.
6. Appraise staff performance and carry out the necessary disciplinary measures to address poor performance.
7. Develop, maintain and update recipe files through computerized processes.
8. Be responsible for inventorying of stock.
9. Assist in developing and implementing merchandising plans for new cash operations, as required.
10. Assist bakers with production of new products or when schedule falls behind.
11. Perform other related duties as assigned.

Minimum Acceptable Qualifications:

1. High school graduation or GED with some technical training and at least three (3) years of related experience in commercial baking of a variety of products, two (2) of which should be in a supervisory capacity.
2. Food Handler Certification.
3. Specialized technical knowledge of baking fundamentals.
4. Computer skills in Microsoft Office, Word, Excel, and Outlook.
5. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Applications can be picked up at Joeten Main Office, Susupe 2/F.
Please no phone calls.

J C Tenorio Enterprises Inc is an equal opportunity employer

NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Board of Trustees Special Meeting
at NMTI, Lower Base
April 9, 2021 – 2:00pm

AGENDA

- Meeting Called to Order (Establishment of a quorum)**
- Adoption of Agenda**
- Public Comments**
 - Dave Doby of Professional Training Solutions**
- Executive Session**
- Unfinished Business**
 - Bank Accounts**
 - Deposits 500k Educational emergency funds**
- New Business**
 - Financial Assistance for 2021**
 - CW Funding for 2019 and 2020**
 - Contracts for Staffing**
 - Employees Handbook**
 - Codes of Conduct**
- Announcements**
- Adjournment**

NOTE: Copies of this notice and agenda have been posted at the Administration Building Entrance Hall, the House of Representatives Entrance Hall and the Senate Entrance Hall. Written comments on the agenda may be submitted to the Northern Marianas Technical Institute or emailed to: cnmttechnicalinstitute@gmail.com on or before the meeting date. Oral testimony may be presented during the meeting on TBD.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

'Impending doom' awaits if we give in to COVID fatigue, CDC director tearfully warns

It is understandable: the desire to embrace an elderly loved one, to shed a mask and smile brightly at the counter clerk, to reunite with a group of friends over a bottle of wine and a gab session. But, this is not the time.

We are COVID weary, to be sure. But we must be wary of our natural instincts for face-to-face communion with others.

The director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention made a tearful public statement last month that she is plagued with a recurring feeling of "impending doom." Dr. Rochelle Walensky said she fears a fourth wave of the coronavirus may be at our doorsteps.

This is not an irrational fear. Germany hovers on another lockdown. Paris hospitals are on the verge of being overwhelmed with COVID patients. New cases are climbing across the U.S. Science and medicine are trying to gauge the effectiveness of vaccines against new virus variants that are being found near and far.

This is the time to dig deep for the will and the self-discipline to combat COVID fatigue.

President Joe Biden cautioned America recently that "This is deadly serious." He asked leaders across the land to double down on mask mandates. This is common sense.

Now is the time to channel the spirit of the Greatest Generation. Those who battled in World War II—abroad, in actual combat, and those who contributed to the war effort on the home front—rose to the expectations and requirements of the occasion. And they kept rising until the battle was won. We must remember and follow their lead. This is the American spirit.

Walensky confided that she is "scared." A little bit of fear is a good thing in a deadly pandemic, and we remain in pandemic gloom despite the pinhole lights of vaccination and the more distant torch of herd immunity.

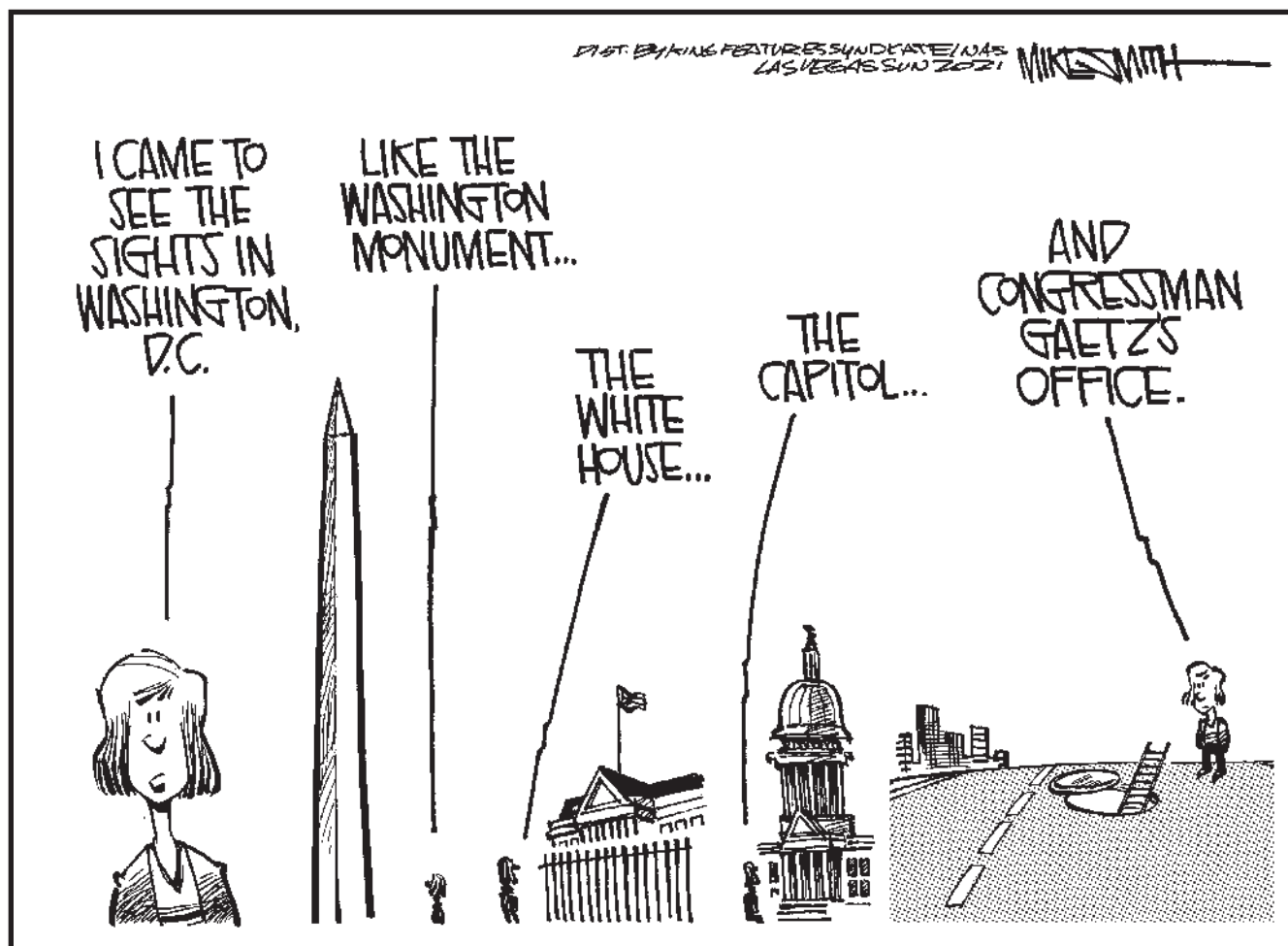
Coronavirus cases went up in the U.S. by 10% in recent weeks, Walensky said, to about 60,000 cases per day. Likewise, hospitalizations and deaths were trending upward.

More vaccinations are the way. More people are rolling up their sleeves to receive those shots. Still, vaccination is not a panacea. The vaccination effort must be accompanied by the twin protocols of masking and social distancing.

The president said it and citizens must listen: "Now's not the time to celebrate. It is time to do what we do best as a country: our duty, our jobs, take care of one another ... Fight to the finish. Don't let up now."

This is the time for hope, but not complacency. We may be weary but we are not worn down or worn out. We must find the resolve to continue to do the right thing: wear a mask and social distance.

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Why I'm still in pandemic mode, four weeks after my second vaccine dose

It's been four weeks since I received my second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, but very little has changed for me. I'm still living in pandemic mode.

The only difference is that when I'm out for a walk, I no longer step off the sidewalk and onto the street when I approach someone who's not wearing a mask.

Turns out, "cave mentality" is a thing. Though we show off our vaccine cards like a winning lottery ticket, many people are reluctant to venture back into the world.

One of my friends recently declared that she's never going to eat in a restaurant again. I'm not taking it that far, though. I'm looking forward to doing fun things again — just not today or tomorrow.

That might not be such a bad thing since federal health officials are warning us about "impending doom" from a potential fourth surge of the virus.

I've gotten used to having my guard up. There are too many questions, too many conflicting messages and still too much careless behavior out there for me to completely let it down right now.

Not only are some people still refusing to wear masks or insist on wearing them improperly, those pesky COVID-19 variants are lurking out there too. I'd prefer to avoid those if I can.

Like most people, I had anxiously waited for the moment when life would go back to the way it was before this virus took over the world. I started thinking about my to-do list as soon as the vaccines were approved.

I would take the bus again, rather than spend \$30 to park my car in a public garage. I would dine at my favorite hibachi-style restaurant, seated with strangers around a big table. I would go to a nail salon for a mani-pedi and see a movie at the multiplex theater.

As far as returning to the real world right now, it feels like I'm standing at the edge of a swimming pool too afraid to jump in because the water is cold. Meanwhile, others already are splashing around in it because their bodies quickly adjusted to the temperature.

Though the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has said it's OK for people who have been vaccinated to gather in groups with other vaccinated people without wearing masks, I'm not ready. I winced when my doctor said we could take off our masks when I return to her office for a follow-up visit next month.

Just when I was getting the nerve to take an express bus downtown, a friend told me that he took a bus over the weekend, and it was so crowded that the bus driver was telling people to enter at their own risk.

Bus drivers have the authority to stop only to let people off or

By DAHLEEN GLANTON

Chicago Tribune

Dahleen Glanton is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.



bypass stops if the bus is becoming crowded. That's what should happen when there are 20 or more passengers on a standard bus or 30 or more passengers on a larger, articulated bus.

But as we know, everybody doesn't follow the rules. That's what scares me.

It's difficult to know exactly where the virus stands right now. Every day, it seems, there's a new directive from the mayor, the governor and the federal government.

As we celebrated President Joe Biden's news that he had exceeded his initial goal of administering 150 million vaccines in his first 100 days in office and was increasing it to 200 million, the CDC burst our bubble.

Even as more people are being vaccinated, new COVID-19 cases are spiking across the country. That doesn't make sense. The vaccine was supposed to keep that from happening, wasn't it?

Though some 158 million people have received at least one dose of a coronavirus vaccine, it isn't nearly enough to stop an anticipated new surge of the virus. Health officials are pleading with Americans to take precautions.

Our fears intensified last week when CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said she was "scared" and felt "impending doom" about where the country is headed. The average number of new cases increased by 10% to about 60,000 cases a day, she said. Hospitalizations and deaths are up as well.

Later, the CDC had to walk back Walensky's statement that vaccinated people never become infected or transmit the virus. If she's correct, people wondered, why do we still have to wear masks?

Turns out, the CDC doesn't actually know whether vaccinated people can spread the virus. All they know for sure is that the vaccines significantly reduce the chances of contracting the virus and transmitting it to others. And while Pfizer announced last week that its vaccine offers protection for at least six months, no one is sure whether we will still be covered beyond that.

See **WHY** on next page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The lie of Georgia voter suppression

President Joe Biden is so committed to bipartisan cooperation and fact-based governance that he's launched an ignorant and incendiary attack on the new Georgia voting law.

Biden says the new law is "Jim Crow in the 21st century" and "an un-American law to deny people the right to vote."

It's now practically mandatory for Democrats to launch such unhinged broadsides. Elizabeth Warren, accusing Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp of having stolen his 2018 election victory over Democratic activist Stacey Abrams (a poisonous myth), tweeted, "The Republican who is sitting in Stacey Abrams' chair just signed a despicable voter suppression bill into law to take Georgia back to Jim Crow."

Anyone making this charge in good faith either doesn't understand the hideousness of Jim Crow or the provisions of the Georgia law.

The old Jim Crow was billy clubs and fire hoses; the alleged new Jim Crow is asking people to write a driver's license number on their absentee ballot envelopes.

The old Jim Crow was poll taxes; the new Jim Crow is expanding weekend voting.

The old Jim Crow was disenfranchising voters en masse based on their race; the new Jim Crow is limiting ballot drop boxes to places they can't be tampered with.

It's hard to believe that one real voter is going to be kept from voting by the new rules.

To better ensure the security, the law requires that voters provide a driver's license or state ID number to apply for a ballot

and one of those numbers (or the last four digits of a Social Security number) when returning the ballot.

The law narrows the window for requesting absentee ballots, although still allows plenty of time. A voter can request a ballot as early as 11 weeks prior to an election or as late as 11 days prior (any later risks the completed ballot not getting delivered in time).

Ballot drop boxes were a pandemic-era innovation in Georgia. The law keeps them, while limiting their location to early voting sites.

After getting blowback over proposed limits on weekend early voting when Black churches run their "Souls to the Polls" events, Georgia lawmakers expanded the potential for weekend voting.

The law gives the State Election Board more authority to take over local election operations, but there's no doubt that election officials in Fulton County, where metro Atlanta is located and long lines at the polls are common, have been incompetent.

Perhaps most controversially, it bans people from distributing food or drink to voters standing in line, an effort to keep partisans from trying to sway voters near polling places. But poll workers can provide food and drink for general use.

The deeper point is that in the contemporary United States, with such wide and ready access to the ballot, changes around the edges don't disenfranchise people.

Georgia considered limiting no-excuse absentee voting to voters 65 and over. Even this wouldn't have dissuaded anyone from voting. A study published by the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research found that turnout increased in

By RICH LOWRY

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Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



2020 just as much in states without no-excuse absentee voting as in states with it.

Strict voter ID laws have long been denounced as voter suppression. It's not true. According to a 2019 working paper for the National Bureau of Economic Research, "strict ID laws have no significant negative effect on registration or turnout, overall or for any subgroup."

And Democrats issued dire warnings about the effects of the Supreme Court in 2013 ending so-called preclearance that required federal approval of changes in the rules in certain jurisdictions.

This, too, was wrong. A paper by a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Oregon concludes, "The removal of preclearance requirements did not significantly reduce the relative turnout of eligible Black voters."

None of the facts, though, can possibly overcome the attachment that Biden and other Democrats have to their emotionally resonant and politically powerful Jim Crow smear.

Conspiracies run amok

Barack Obama was about to become president, and Kathryn Olmsted was worried. The historian, an expert on the combustible blend of politics, conspiracy and paranoia, feared her new book on the subject would soon be irrelevant.

With George W. Bush leaving office, she figured, the chatter about the 9/11 terrorist attacks being an inside job would soon fade away, ending the dalliance with such extreme nuttiness.

She needn't have fretted.

The decade that followed was bracketed by two Big Lies: the canard that Obama was born in Africa and thus didn't belong in the White House, and the fiction that the 2020 election was stolen and thus Donald Trump never should have vacated the premises. Countless other mistruths and wackadoodle theories gained purchase in the years between.

Indeed, thanks in good part to Trump's mendacity, these are glory days for an academic with Olmsted's expertise, which has placed her in great demand as an explainer and debunker.

She's not particularly glad about that, though Olmsted does laugh a lot for someone who spends so much time plumbing the nether reaches of the body politic. Just the day before, she said with a dry chuckle, a journalist mentioned this loopy tale making the rounds: Former first lady Michelle Obama is transgender, a fact known to the late actress Joan Rivers, who was murdered by Bill and Hillary Clinton to keep it secret.

"That shocked me," Olmsted said, when asked whether anything surprises her anymore. "I hadn't heard that one."

It was a blustery day when the UC Davis professor sat down last week at a bistro near campus; it was almost as though the weather was acknowledging the angry gale that buffeted the country these past years and months of conspiracy-fueled rage, culminating in January's deadly assault on the Capitol.

Olmsted's role as a clearinghouse for craziness is not new.

Her first book, which started as a doctoral dissertation, covered the post-Watergate investigations of FBI and CIA abuses. That, in turn, led to her focus on conspiratorial thinking. The

dark corners of government, it turned out, provide the perfect place for wild theories to grow.

Her work also left her inundated with calls and letters from people recounting their frightful experiences, real and imagined. "At first," she said, "it was kind of thrilling to get those phones calls." But it was hard sorting fact from fantasy. The government did illegally spy on activists in the anti-Vietnam War and civil rights movements. And the CIA, in fact, subjected scores of unwitting subjects to mind-control experiments.

"People would say, 'I was in this bar in Baltimore in 1956 and I believe the CIA dropped LSD in my drink,'" Olmsted recounted of stories that sounded plausible—up to a point. "I remember this one guy said to me, 'What I really need from you is the name of a good dentist, because the CIA put a transmitter in my molar and all the dentists say it's not there.'"

Another hearty laugh.

Then there was the woman who called Olmsted seeking advice because, she said, her boyfriend had worked for the CIA and was being pursued by the FBI as a suspected Russian spy. Olmsted was dubious. Years later, she came across a newspaper article. The boyfriend had been arrested for spying.

As that suggests, crazy things do happen. Like a president's reelection committee sanctioning a burglary at Democratic National Committee headquarters to boost his political prospects. Or an administration trading arms for hostages and using the proceeds to support a guerrilla war in Central America.

For that reason, Olmsted said, it's good to keep an open mind and healthy skepticism about those elected to serve our interests. "I think it's essential in a democracy to think sometimes there might be conspiracies in the government ... that people plotted something and covered it up," she said.

But, she went on, recent years have seen a perilous development, which she called "conspiracy theory without the theory." Or, more simply, utter fabrication with no grounding in reality whatsoever.

"It used to be there were a lot of facts that were actual facts and

until millions more are vaccinated. Thankfully, that could happen sooner than we thought.

Biden said last week that the U.S. is more than doubling the number of pharmacies that can administer the vaccine. By April 19, he said, 90% of adults will be eligible for the vaccine and will be able to get it within 5 miles of where they live.

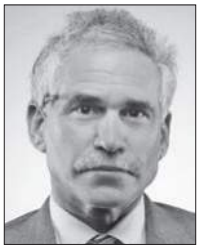
Let's just hope people are willing to get the vaccines once they are more accessible. If they don't, we're doomed.

There's a chance that the normal we once knew no longer exists. That doesn't mean we won't regain most of the freedoms we

By MARK Z. BARABAK

Los Angeles Times

Mark Z. Barabak is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.



then people would make this leap. But like the birther conspiracy theory—regarding Obama's supposed African origin—"there's no kernel of truth there. There's nothing you can point to and say, 'Well his mother did make that trip to Kenya when she was pregnant,'" Olmsted said. "It's just totally made-up and there's no attempt to justify it."

Social media is a pernicious spreader of disinformation. So was Trump, who used his power and stature to sow poisoned seeds that helped lead to the Capitol insurrection and, since then, voter suppression laws aimed at addressing fictitious election fraud. "That's new," Olmsted said. "We've never had a president who promotes and supports conspiracy theories."

Much less one who tells dangerous lies that undermine the very foundation of the country.

It's one thing, Olmsted noted, to believe the moon landing was faked, as roughly 5% of Americans consistently tell pollsters. It's something else entirely when three-quarters of self-identified Republicans believe, wrongly, that there was widespread voter fraud in 2020, undermining Joe Biden's legitimacy as president.

For all her good cheer, Olmsted is once again worried.

"I'm concerned about the survival of American democracy," she said, clutching her paper cup as a gust threatened to splatter tea across the sidewalk. "The thing that worries me most is if the democratic processes of this country are so discredited, where does that leave us?"

lost over the past year. It just means we'll have to be extra careful far longer than we'd like.

I've gotten used to ordering takeout and getting together with friends and family via Zoom. I've even learned to manage my breathing while wearing a mask on long walks. But there's nothing like sitting on the lakefront and feeling the sun on your bare face.

For the time being, I'm still going to keep hanging out in my cave. When I do come out, I'll wear my mask and hope that everyone I come in contact with has the decency to wear one too.

That's really all any of us can do.






WHY

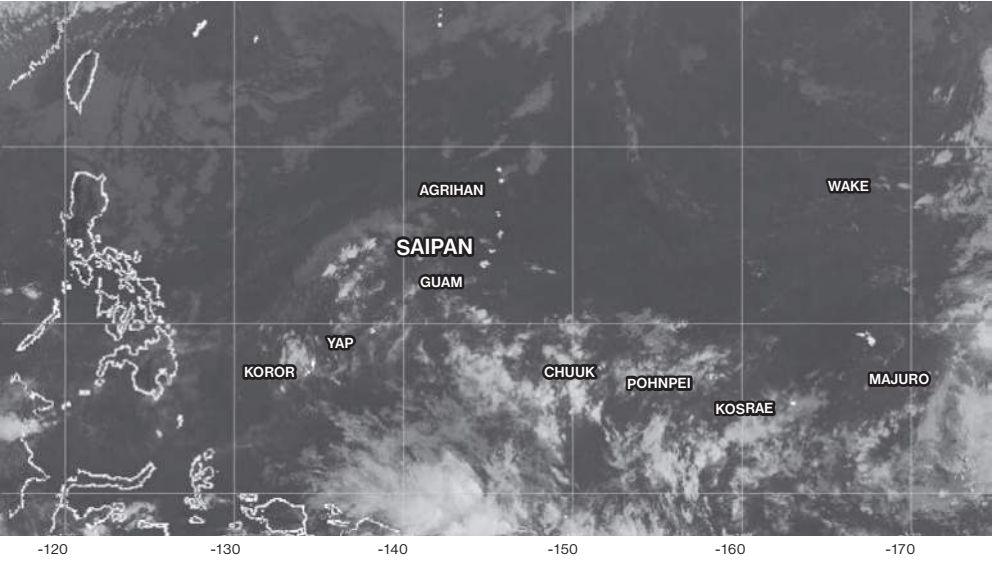
From Page 6

So, what are we supposed to think? These mixed messages aren't doing anything to instill confidence in those who have been wary of the vaccine from the start. And it doesn't make those of us who scrambled to get the vaccine as soon as possible feel comfortable enough to start living again.

Perhaps that's the point. As of last week, only 17% of Americans were fully immunized. We cannot reach herd immunity

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds becoming east around 10 mph by afternoon.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	
88°	75°	88°	75°	88°	75°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:11 AM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly sunny skies and light winds prevail this morning as a surface high sits overhead. Buoys and overnight altimetry indicate combined seas of 4 to 6 feet with most energy from the east to northeast.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88 78 °F	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85 77 °F	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86 71 °F	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85 80 °F	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86 80 °F	
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	86 79 °F	
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	83 80 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:07 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:30 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	3:41 AM	3:27 PM	-
Friday	4:21 AM	4:18 PM	-
Saturday	4:58 AM	5:06 PM	-
Sunday	5:34 AM	5:53 PM	-
Monday	6:09 AM	6:40 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Thunderstorms	72 62 °F	
Beijing	Cloudy	65 48 °F	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	78 69 °F	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83 70 °F	
London	Cloudy	59 40 °F	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	76 55 °F	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	93 76 °F	
Melbourne	Sunny	78 52 °F	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	87 75 °F	
New York	Partly Cloudy	63 44 °F	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	68 51 °F	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	60 42 °F	
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	60 56 °F	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	66 46 °F	
Salem	Overcast	60 47 °F	
San Francisco	Partly Sunny	67 52 °F	
Seoul	Cloudy	58 51 °F	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	65 52 °F	
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	70 54 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
6:13 AM	High Tide	1.81	
12:10 PM	Low Tide	0.92	
5:15 PM	High Tide	1.61	
-	-	-	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021									
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily		
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily		
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat	1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable		
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable		
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1208	14:00	14:15	Daily		
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily		
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily		
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily		
ROTA TO GUAM				1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		
GUAM TO ROTA				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable		
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily		
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2103	9:30	9:45	Daily		
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily		
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable		
				2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable		
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable		
				2108	14:30	14:45	Daily		
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily		
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily		
				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily		
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable		

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April 4-10 is proclaimed National Library Week

By NEIL FAMA

neil_fama@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Underscoring the important role of libraries, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres was joined by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios Monday at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library for the proclamation signing that designates April 4 to 10 as National Library Week, April 6 as National Library Workers Day, and April 7 as National Library Outreach Day.

Commonwealth Library Council treasurer Charles V. Cepeda explained that this year's proclamation theme—"Welcome to your library"—promotes the idea that libraries extends far beyond the four walls of the building, and that everyone is welcome to use its services.

"During the pandemic libraries have been going above and beyond to adapt to our changing world by expanding their resources and continuing to meet the needs of their community. Whether people visit in person or virtually, libraries provide opportunities for everyone to explore a new world and become their best selves through access through technology, multi-media content, and educational programs," said Cepeda.

He added that diverse groups, including government officials, business owners, and students, depend upon libraries and the valuable resources they offer such as e-books and technology classes, as well as programs for job seekers.

Miss Earth Maria Terlaje, who also attended the proclamation signing, said that



NEIL FAMA

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library staff pose for a photo behind, from left, Commonwealth Library Council treasurer Charles V. Cepeda, first lady Diann Torres, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) at the proclamation signing of National Library Week, National Library Workers Day, and National Library Outreach Day yesterday, April 5, at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library.

libraries are so much more than just books in shelves and a quiet and peaceful place to read. "It is also something extraordinary," Terlaje said. "It is the different stories and words beneath each genre. From dictionaries and thesauruses, to history and science, to fiction and nonfiction, to mystery and romance, to magazines and novels. This place is a wonderland of a thriving adventure. Through reading. It is the dedicated workers that push to carry out these resources that flourish knowledge and culture into our people. A library is the result of a healthy community educated students, children filled with aspirations and more. It plays a fundamental role in society, being a part of the backbone of raising a village of inspired people," Terlaje said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres

assured that he is committed to helping the library continue to provide for the new generation.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios recalled how the library became a resource for many people applying for assistance after Super Typhoon Yutu struck the CNMI.

"It's not just celebrating the library, but also to recognize those individuals who continue to provide these invaluable services to the community. Thank you for all that you do for us," Palacios said.

Sablan shared a story of his younger self drawn to a Nancy Drew mystery novel. Since then, thrillers and mysteries has been his favorite genre.

"I always have a book open. I can't fall asleep at night without a book. I encourage all of you to read. It's truly a wonderful thing," Sablan said.

Obama Leaders to give talks at UOG Conference on Island Sustainability

Four Obama Leaders from the Asia-Pacific region and one Obama Scholar will deliver sustainability-focused talks today, Thursday, at the 2021 University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability. The speakers come to the conference's virtual stage through a partnership between the UOG Center for Island Sustainability and the Obama Foundation Leaders program, which identifies and empowers emerging leaders to make an impact on critical issues in their communities and around the world.

The conference's "CIS SEED Talks: Ideas Worth Cultivating" series has a similar format to TED Talks, which are influential talks of 18 minutes or less meant to spread ideas on range of topics.

The CIS SEED Talks will begin at 9:30am today.

This year's CIS SEED Talks speakers are:

■ Julian Aguon, international human rights lawyer, Blue Ocean Law (Guam);

■ Kirsten Brosbøl, former member of Parliament and minister of Environment for Denmark and founder and CEO of 2030Beyond (Denmark)

■ Liangyi Chang, asia managing director, 350.org (Taiwan)

■ Phillip Dy, chief of staff, Office of the Vice President of the Philippines

■ Te Puoho Katene, executive director, Te Pūtea Whakatu-pu Trust (New Zealand)

■ Yolanda Joab Mori, coordinator, Blue Prosperity Micronesia

The segment will be moderated by Maya Soetoro, a consultant on the international team at the Obama Founda-

tion and a faculty specialist at the University of Hawaii. Soetoro was previously the director of the Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. During last year's conference, she was a special guest and discussed the importance of looking to the past to address the issues of the future.

The 12th annual University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability is taking place as a virtual event through Friday this week with "Islands Are Rising" as its theme. General conference registration is available for \$20 and \$10 for students. Learn more about the UOG Virtual Conference Series on Island Sustainability at <https://www.uog.edu/cis2021/>. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21 – 036

Opening Date: March 31, 2021 • Closing Date: April 14, 2021

POSITION TITLE:
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LOCATION:
ANNUAL SALARY:
CONTRACT:
POSITION(S):

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Four (4)

The incumbent will be under the overall supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of the Power Generation Division.

Duties:

- Responsible for the safe and efficient operation of all plant equipment and machinery including, but not limited to, generators, operation of valves, plant production operations, and unloading of diesel fuel tank trucks to storage tanks.
- Follows all safety and operations procedures during operations and maintenance activities.
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- Will act as the responsible person when working without supervision. Responsible for entire plant during operating periods.
- May direct and/or instruct all other personnel as required during all other periods.
- May be on call for emergency response.
- Operates, controls, monitors and inspects generators, switchgears, motor controls, transformers, protection relays, circuit breakers, compressors, RO system and other associated equipment.
- Performs analysis, maintenance, operations, installations and/or repairs of 8 megawatt, 13 megawatt Mitsubishi-MAN diesel engines to include engine auxiliary equipment in the main Power Plant and provide the same services on the small Power Plant with 2.5 megawatt Electromotive Division (EMD) units.
- Ensures work is within Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) engineering specifications and quality levels.
- Takes readings from meters, gauges and computers at established intervals, reads and interprets data to take corrective steps as necessary.
- Inspects records and log book entries, and communicates with other plant personnel in order to assess equipment operating status.
- Performs systems operations to regulate and coordinate transmission load, frequencies and line voltages.
- Identifies potential issues and operational concerns; performs operational inspections and symptomatic maintenance; provides status reports; evaluates and implements solutions and corrective actions under emergency situations.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education. Considerable knowledge in operation, repair, and maintenance of power generating and/or industrial equipment/facilities. Must demonstrate having had (A) 4 years of increasingly responsible experience in a diesel engine power plant operations and (B) those 4 years of increasingly responsible experience are to be performing operator duties.

Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Mechanical and electrical principles, practices and operations of power plant equipment. Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Inventory maintenance practices; Taking equipment readings and maintaining reading data; Inspection procedures; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Performing inspections and analyzing system and equipment data; Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standard operating procedures; Monitoring plant equipment and making adjustments; Identifying electrical and mechanical issues and recommending or implementing solutions; Initiating requests and trouble calls and providing assistance; Preparing and updating activity logs and status reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending. Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles. Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work; exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities.

Must be available to work a 24/7 rotation shift to include weekends, holidays and on-call.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.gov

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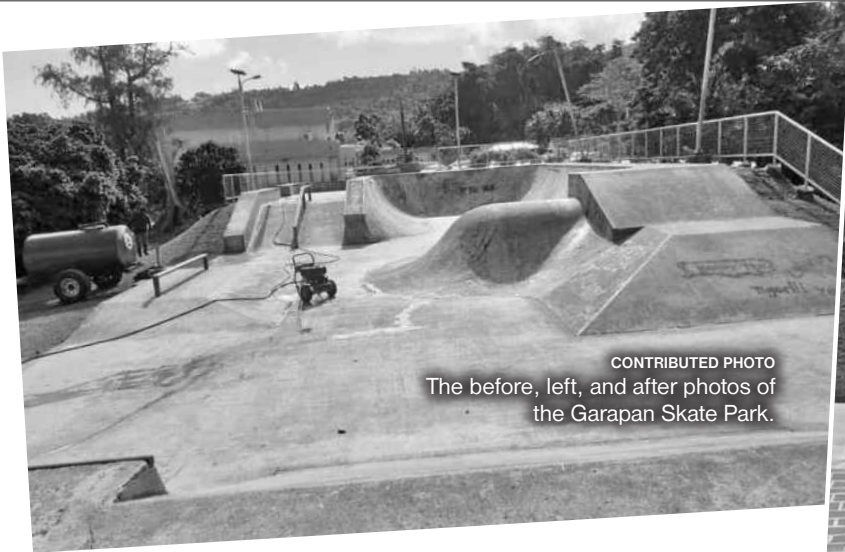
Special Feature

Editor's Note: The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' Public Private Partnership initiative has drawn widespread support from the community. Various activities have been conducted and projects have been launched to rally behind the destination transformation campaign. This section will provide insights on how PPP supporters are committed to the program.



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
Committee of the Northern Mariana Islands

Together, We Can
Public Private Partnership



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The before, left, and after photos of the Garapan Skate Park.



Volunteer players, left photo, paint the flooring of Chinatown Basketball Court. Right photo shows players doing shooting drills at the transformed court. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Restore sites, instill village pride

The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers has brought the Public Private Partnership campaign into the heart of the villages in the CNMI, which is where the community's efforts can directly improve the quality of life of residents.

In March, seven of the 11 new groups that signed up for the PPP program adopted sports and event facilities that will provide residents with cleaner, safer, and welcoming venues to host community activities.

The new PPP supporters include members of the 22nd Legislature (Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 representatives and the House of Representatives minority group), who signed up to transform basketball courts in Kagman, Chalan Kanoa, Navy Hill, Capital Hill, Chinatown, Susupe, Tanapag, and As Matuis; a children's park; library; beach pavilion; and the Garapan Skate Park.

CNMI residents are already seeing improvements. Last month, the minority bloc of the House of Representatives, staff, and community volunteers completed a four-day make-over of the Garapan Skate Park. The skate park was thoroughly cleaned, repaired, and painted to include colorful murals that transformed the park into a work of art. The skate park is now open for everyone to enjoy.

"We are pleased that a majority of our new PPP partners have chosen to adopt facilities in their respective villages. When we created the

PPP campaign, our intent was to transform not only the tourist sites in the CNMI but also key areas in our villages," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who co-chairs the GCEA with Jerry Tan. "An underlying goal of this campaign is to bring back village pride and get neighbors to work side-by-side to improve life at the village level."

Torres added that seeing improvements in basketball courts, baseball fields, and the skate park would further encourage residents, especially the youth, to stay active and get involved in sports. Upgrades to the social halls will provide alternatives and cost-effective venues for community activities and family events.

Matt Iguel, manager of the Socho Basketball Club, which is partnering with Precinct 4 representatives Sheila Babauta and Joel Camacho in adopting the As Matuis court, noted that As Matuis residents have already noticed the improvements in the facility.

"Through the PPP, we now have equipment that we need to clean and maintain the basketball court. The court is now cleaner and more vibrant. We are seeing more people playing basketball with their families and friends. Some residents have also suggested that we adopt the bus stops in the village. With us working together, we can make it happen," Iguel said.

Talaabwogh Star's Malcolm Omar is pleased to see the PPP campaign make its way into the villages. He noted that it underscores the importance of everyone pitching in to make

the islands better places to live.

"It's a great way to encourage our people to have a sense of ownership of the resources in our communities. It benefits everyone if we are able to provide a safe, clean, and comfortable place for residents and visitors alike. The PPP shows that we all care for our community," said Omar, whose group is also partnering with Precinct 4 representatives in restoring a basketball court in Tanapag.

Meanwhile, the Korean Diving Association, Japan Saipan Travel Association, and the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas have adopted historic sites throughout Saipan. KDA agreed to maintain the Underwater World War II Korean Monument, while the JSTA and Japan Society of NMI committed to caring for the Japanese Peace Memorial and the Tower of Okinawa. Samoa-Marianas decided to adopt two sites—the historical Samoa Village in Tanapag and the I'iga Pisa Launch Site in Agingan.

With the 11 new partners joining the PPP program on March 18, there is now a total of 54 groups adopting 48 sites on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

The GCEA welcomes the new partners to the program and invites interested organizations to join the PPP initiative by sending inquiries by email to gceacnmi@gmail.com. PPP site transformations can be viewed on the GCEA's Facebook and Instagram pages (@cnmigov.economy). (PR)

GROUPS	ADOPTED SITES
House Minority Members	Capital Hill Basketball Court Capital Hill Baseball Field Lower Navy Hill Basketball Court Chalan Kanoa Basketball Court Tottotville Basketball Court Garapan Skate Park Chinatown Basketball Court
Precinct 1 Representatives	Dandan Children's Park San Antonio Basketball Court Fernando Benavente Library
Precinct 2 Representatives	Susupe Basketball Court Susupe Social Hall
Precinct 3 Representatives	Civic Center Beach Park Pavilion
Precinct 4 Representatives	Tanapag Beach Tanapag Basketball Court As Matuis Basketball Court
Precinct 5 Representatives	Kagman II Basketball Court Kagman III KCC Basketball Court Kagman III Chacha Basketball Court
Socho Basketball Club	As Matuis Basketball Court
Talaabwogh Stars	Tanapag Basketball Court
Korean Diving Association	Underwater World War II Korean Monument
Japan Saipan Travel Association	Japanese Peace Memorial Tower of Okinawa
Japanese Society of NMI	Japanese Peace Memorial Tower of Okinawa
Samoa-Marianas	Historical Samoa Village (Tanapag) I'iga Pisa Launch Site (Agingan)

Business



Dirt bikes and quad-bikes at Saipan Toys LLC's Gualo Rai showroom.

PHOTOS BY MARK RABAGO

Relocation sale at Saipan Toys LLC

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Saipan Toys LLC is vacating its showroom in Gualo Rai and moving all its inventory to As Teo. Before completing the move, though, the shop will be holding a relocation sale.

"Deals are good through Saturday until items are loaded on truck for transport. Please stop by Saipan Toys LLC and if you see an item you like call me directly to discuss price," said owner Scott Malin in a social media post.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Malin said he is closing Saipan Toys LLC's showroom as a way of

reducing overhead costs to pass savings along to customers.

Items on sale include their popular dirt bikes, quad-bikes, and TVs. "COVID has slowed everything down," he said when asked why Saipan Toys LLC is closing shop at the intersection of Middle Road and Gualo Rai Road.

When Malin opened Saipan Toys



Saipan Toys LLC super-sized smart TVs are also on sale.



Saipan Toys LLC is having a relocation sale until Saturday.

LLC last year he said he did so simply because he's a connoisseur of "big boys toys." But even at that time, he was aware of the inherent risks of opening a new business in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. "It's definitely not easy, but it should be good when things pick back up," he said then.

Despite the closure, Malin as-

ures his customers Saipan Toys LLC will continue to do business but by appointment only. It also continues to do financing for small items (\$10,000 or less) through Express Financial.

To set up an appointment and buy new smart TVs or kick the tires on quad-bikes and dirt bikes, call Malin at 788-3381.

NRA exec sheltered on borrowed yacht after mass shootings

DALLAS (AP)—After school shootings that left dozens dead in recent years, National Rifle Association leader Wayne LaPierre said the resulting outrage put him in such danger that he sought shelter aboard a borrowed 108-foot (32.92-meter) yacht.

During a deposition, the head of the powerful gun-rights group's acknowledged sailing in The Bahamas with his family as a "security retreat" in the summers following a 2012 school shootings in Connecticut and a 2018 massacre in Florida.

"I was basically under presidential threat without presidential security in terms of the number of threats I was getting," LaPierre said, according to a transcript of the deposition filed in court over the weekend. "And this was the one place that I hope could feel safe, where I remember getting there going, 'Thank God I'm safe, nobody can get me here.'"

The testimony emerged in a federal bankruptcy trail over whether the NRA should be allowed to incorporate in Texas instead of New York, where a state lawsuit is trying to put it out of business. LaPierre is scheduled

to take the witness stand in the case, which is being conducted virtually before a court in Dallas, this week.

The NRA declared bankruptcy in January, months after New York Attorney General Letitia James, a Democrat, sued seeking the group's dissolution over claims that top executives illegally diverted tens of millions of dollars for lavish personal trips, no-show contracts for associates and other questionable expenditures.

The allegations include that LaPierre repeatedly sailed in The Bahamas on the yacht of Hollywood producer Stanton McKenzie, whose company has done business with the NRA, but did not mention the trips on financial disclosures. McKenzie is not named in the suit but both it and LaPierre's deposition include the name of his yacht: *Illusions*.

In the deposition, LaPierre said he did not pay to use McKenzie's yacht, which came with a cook, a motor boat and a pair of Sea-Doo personal watercraft. He said he did not think using the vessel violated the NRA's conflict-of-interest policy because the summer sailing trips were for se-

curity. Nonetheless, LaPierre said he stopped using it in 2019 as part of the NRA's "self-correction."

The shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut left 20 first graders and six educators dead in December 2012. The February 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida killed 17 people.

The NRA did not immediately respond to a request for comment on LaPierre's testimony.

McKenzie did not immediately respond to voicemail and email messages to his company seeking comment. He told *The Wall Street Journal*, which first reported LaPierre's use of his yacht last year, that he hadn't read New York's lawsuit and couldn't discuss any litigation.

Shannon Watts, the founder of the gun control group Moms Demand Action, highlighted LaPierre's testimony on Twitter Monday, mocking his argument that it takes "a good guy with a gun" to stop a mass shooting. "The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good friend with a yacht?" she wrote.

Bezos endorses higher corporate taxes for infrastructure

WASHINGTON (AP)—Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos endorsed President Joe Biden's focus on building up the country's infrastructure Tuesday and said the company even supports a corporate tax rate hike to help pay for it.

Bezos' statement, posted on the company's website, was notable because it came after Biden singled out the company for criticism about how much it pays in federal taxes when he recently unveiled his \$2.3 trillion infrastructure proposal.

Biden has proposed hiking the U.S. corporate tax rate to 28% from 21% to help pay for his plan, an idea that Republican leaders are panning as harmful to economic growth. Democrats will surely cite support from individual companies to undercut that argument.

"We recognize this investment will require concessions from all sides—both on the specifics of what's included as well as how it gets paid for (we're supportive of a rise in the corporate tax rate)," Bezos wrote. "We look forward to

Congress and the Administration coming together to find the right, balanced solution that maintains or enhances U.S. competitiveness."

Bezos was careful not to endorse a specific plan. Rather, he said "we support the Biden Administration's focus on making bold investments in American infrastructure."

The company would benefit from the investments made in roads, bridges, airports and broadband. Business groups have joined in the call for more public works investment by the federal government, but they have generally balked at Biden's call for raising the corporate income tax, with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce describing Biden's proposal as "dangerously misguided when it comes to how to pay for infrastructure."

Along with partially undoing the corporate tax cut put in place during President Donald Trump's administration, Biden also wants to set a minimum U.S. tax on overseas corporate income, and to make it harder for companies to shift earnings offshore.

Nation

Biden makes all adults eligible for a vaccine on April 19

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden announced Tuesday that he's bumping up his deadline by two weeks for states to make all adults in the U.S. eligible for coronavirus vaccines. But even as he expressed optimism about the pace of vaccinations, he warned Americans that the nation is not yet out of the woods when it comes to the pandemic.

"Let me be deadly earnest with you: We aren't at the finish line. We still have a lot of work to do. We're still in a life and death race against this virus," Biden said in remarks at the White House.

The president warned that "new variants of the virus are spreading and they're moving quickly. Cases are going back up, hospitalizations are no longer declining." He added that "the pandemic remains dangerous," and encouraged Americans to continue to wash their hands, socially distance and wear masks.

Biden added that while his administration is on schedule to meet his new goal of distributing 200 million doses of the vaccine during his first 100 days, it will still take time for enough Americans to get vaccinated to slow the spread of

the virus.

But he expressed hope that his Tuesday announcement, that every adult will be eligible by April 19 to sign up and get in a virtual line to be vaccinated, will help expand access and distribution of the vaccine. Some states already had begun moving up their deadlines from the original May 1 goal.

"No more confusing rules. No more confusing restrictions," Biden said.

Biden made the announcement after visiting a COVID-19 vaccination site at Immanuel Chapel at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria.

During his visit, he thanked everyone for administering the shots and for showing up to receive them.

"That's the way to beat this," Biden said. "Get the vaccination when you can."

The president also said no one should fear mutations of the coronavirus that are showing

up in the U.S. after being discovered in other countries. He acknowledged that the new strains are more virulent and more dangerous, but said "the vaccines work on all of them."

Biden also announced that 150 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been shot into arms since his inauguration

on Jan. 20. That puts the president well on track to meet his new goal of 200 million shots administered by his 100th day in office on April 30.

Biden's original goal had been 100 million shots by the end of his first 100 days, but that number was reached in March.

Police official: Chauvin trained to avoid neck pressure

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Minneapolis police are taught to restrain combative suspects with a knee on their back or shoulders if necessary but are told to "stay away from the neck when possible," a department use-of-force instructor testified Tuesday at former Officer Derek Chauvin's murder trial.

Lt. Johnny Mercil became the latest member of the Minneapolis force to take the stand as part of an effort by prosecutors to dismantle the argument that Chauvin was doing what he was trained to do when he put his knee on George Floyd's neck last May.

Several experienced officers, including the police chief himself, have testified that Floyd should not have been kept pinned to the pavement for close to 9 1/2 minutes by prosecutors' reckoning as the

Black man lay face-down, his hands cuffed behind his back.

According to testimony and records submitted Tuesday, Chauvin took a 40-hour course in 2016 on how to recognize people in crisis—including those suffering mental problems or the effects of drug use—and how to use de-escalation techniques to calm them down.

Sgt. Ker Yang, the Minneapolis police official in charge of crisis-intervention training, said officers are taught to "slow things down and re-evaluate and reassess."

Records show Chauvin also underwent training in the use of force in 2018. Mercil said those who attended were taught that the sanctity of life is a cornerstone of departmental policy and that officers must use the least amount of force required to get a suspect

to comply.

Under cross-examination by Chauvin attorney Eric Nelson, Mercil testified that officers are trained in some situations to use their knee across a suspect's back or shoulder and employ their body weight to maintain control.

But Mercil added: "We tell officers to stay away from the neck when possible."

Nelson has argued that the now-fired white officer "did exactly what he had been trained to do over his 19-year career," and he has suggested that the illegal drugs in Floyd's system and his underlying health conditions are what killed him, not Chauvin's knee.

In fact, Nelson sought to point out moments in the video footage when he said Chauvin's knee did not appear to be on Floyd's neck.

Refugee families urge Biden to keep promise to up admissions

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The families of refugees and their supporters, including 124 elected officials, sent President Joe Biden a letter Tuesday urging him to make good on his promise to boost refugee admissions to the United States during the current budget year, replacing the record low number set by his predecessor.

Biden presented a plan to Congress two months ago to raise the ceiling on admissions to 62,500 and to eliminate restrictions imposed by former President Donald Trump that have disqualified a significant number of refugees, including those fleeing war.

But Biden has not issued a presidential determination since his administration notified Congress, as required by law. The action does not require congressional approval and past presidents have issued such presidential determinations that set the cap on refugee admissions shortly after the notification to Congress.

The Biden administration has given no explanation as to why the president has kept the refugee admissions cap of 15,000 set by Trump, the lowest it has been in the

41-year-old U.S. Refugee Resettlement program's history. The White House had no immediate response to the letter Tuesday.

"This continues to have a devastating impact on people in dire need of humanitarian protection," states the letter signed by the families of refugees, resettlement agencies and 124 state and local elected officials from 35 states.

Only about 2,050 refugees have been allowed in to the United States because of the restrictions set by Trump, agencies said.

Every day that passes without any action "leaves hundreds of refugee families in limbo in refugee camps and many waiting to be reunited with their loved ones here in the U.S. waiting for us to uphold our promise to protect," the letter states.

"We hope that President Biden will listen to our voices," said Nejra Sumic, one of the refugee organizers of the letter.

State Department spokesman Ned Price said the president is committed to "ensuring that the United States is, again, a leader when it comes to refu-

gees," but it will take time to restore the program that was decimated by the previous administration. The drop in admissions under Trump forced many resettlement offices to close and let staff go.

"There's a great deal of rebuilding that needs to take place in order to have a refugee program that allows us to achieve what we wanted to achieve in a way that is both effective and that is safe," Price said without elaborating.


The State Department, which coordinates flights with resettlement agencies, booked 715 refugees to come to the United States with the anticipation that Biden would have acted by March, but those flights were canceled since the refugees were not eligible under Trump's rules, according to resettlement agencies.

Most of the refugees are from Africa and fleeing armed conflict or political persecution. Most spots are allocated for people fleeing religious persecution, Iraqis who have assisted U.S. forces there, and people from Central America's Northern Triangle, the resettlement agencies say.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

† Maria Camacho Castro

MARCH 26, 1953 – MARCH 23, 2021



In Her New Life, She now joins Her:
Husband: †Ricardo Camacho Castro
Parents: †Joaquin Rios Camacho and †Gabela Borja Camacho
Sister: †Ana Borja Camacho
Parents-in-law: †Nicolas Torres Sablan and †Josepha Castro Sablan

Her Memories will Forever live in the hearts of Her:
Children:
 Richard C. Castro & Elizabeth V. Castro (Marylynn Marie, Lolaine Marie & Taylor John, Wilson Laurence, Fatima Louise, Richard Ric, Aubrey Ricci, Audrey Lizbeth)
 Patrick C. Castro & Clarinda Aldan (Ashley & Jaymark [Rileyanne Havanna, Aiden James, Allison Jade], Patrick Harley, Charlotte & Billy [Hailey Dawn, Kylie Rose], Kristine Amadeaya, Patrick John)
 Elaine C. Matagolai & Roy D. Matagolai (Cain Ricardo & Yuriko [Sasuke Zeke, Musashi Zion, Komachi Zyla Margarita], Kailene & Keoni [Avery Roy Lysander], Roy Allen Jr., Dakota Gabrielle)
 Gabriel C. Castro & Amri Castro (Stephan, Migel, Aubrey, Aubyguel, Albert)
 Jolene C. Castro & Robert C. Torres (Keona Kaylee & Chantilly, Ricardo Jay & Sophia, Kristan Rose, Avah Marie, Marley Rosa, Anthony Joseph, Gabriel Elias, Kilianna Mae & Khoen Alexander)
 Maria Josepha C. Castro

Siblings:
 Delfina C. & Joaquin M. Manglona & Family
 Agueda B. Camacho & Family
 Rosa C. & Francisco I. Aquino & Family
 Joaquin B. Camacho & Family

In-laws:
 Maria C. & †Jose Sablan & Family
 Herman C. & Rita Santos & Family
 David C. & Remedio Sablan & Family
 Margarita C. Sablan & Family
 Nicolas C. & Lucy Sablan & Family
 †Edward Sablan
 George C. & Bernadita Sablan & Family
 Rudy C. & Elphidia Sablan & Family
 †Remedio Sablan
 Vicente C. & Lynn Sablan & Family
 Ramon C. & Victoria Sablan & Family

She will be greatly missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

Mass at San Jose Church, Sunday April 4, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.; Monday April 5, 2021 – Thursday April 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, April 9, 2021 at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso at 9:00 a.m. followed by Public Viewing and Mass at 11:00 a.m. Burial will take place at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at peaceful rest.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Children & Family

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Myanmar forces arrest comedian, break up doctors' protest

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Authorities in Myanmar arrested the country's best-known comedian on Tuesday as they continue to crack down on people they accuse of helping incite nationwide protests against February's military coup. The comedian Zarganar was taken from his home in Yangon by police and soldiers who arrived in two army vehicles, fellow comedian Ngepyawkyaw said on his own Facebook page. Zarganar, 60, is a sharp-tongued satirist who has been in and out of prison since he was active in a failed 1988 popular uprising against a previous military dictatorship. He is also well known for his social work, especially arranging assistance for victims of Cyclone Nargis in 2008. In the past week, the junta has issued arrest warrants for about 100 people active in the fields of literature, film, theater arts, music and journalism on charges of spreading information that undermines the stability of the country and the rule of law. It was not immediately clear what Zarganar, whose real name is Maung Thura, has been charged with. Many ordinary protesters and activists are also being arrested every day, according to numerous reports on social media. In Mandalay, the country's second-biggest city, security forces used stun grenades and fired guns Tuesday to break up a march by medical workers who have defiantly continued to protest almost every day against the Feb. 1 coup that ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. The army's takeover set back Myanmar's gradual return to democracy after five decades of military rule. A participant who asked to remain anonymous for his own safety told The Associated Press that doctors, nurses and medical students were attacked as they gathered at about 5 a.m. by security forces who also used cars to run into protesters on motorbikes. The online news site The Irrawaddy reported that four doctors were arrested.

Brazil's daily deaths from COVID pass 4K for first time

SAO PAULO (AP)—Brazil reported a 24-hour tally of COVID-19 deaths exceeding 4,000 for the first time Tuesday, becoming the third nation to go above that daily threshold. Many governors, mayors and judges are reopening parts of the economy despite lingering chaos in overcrowded hospitals

and a collapsed health system in several parts of the country. Brazil's health ministry said 4,195 deaths were counted in the previous 24 hours, with the nation's pandemic toll quickly approaching 340,000, the second highest in the world. Only the U.S. and Peru have had daily death tolls higher than 4,000. Sao Paulo state, Brazil's most populous with 46 million residents, registered almost 1,400 deaths in the latest count. Health officials said the figure was partly due to the Easter holiday, which delayed the count. Local authorities nationwide argue that numbers of cases and hospitalizations are trending downward after a week of a partial shutdown. Miguel Lago, executive director of Brazil's Institute for Health Policy Studies, which advises public health officials, said reopening is a mistake that he fears will bring even higher death numbers, though he thinks it unlikely to be reversed.

Ex-PH President Estrada on ventilator with COVID-19

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Former Philippine President Joseph Estrada, who is battling COVID-19, has been put on a ventilator, his son said Tuesday. The 83-year-old Estrada, the most prominent Filipino politician to test positive for the coronavirus, was hospitalized more than a week ago and initially was recovering well, said his son, former Sen. Jinggoy Estrada. But on Monday, "my father's condition suffered a setback," he said in a medical bulletin posted on Facebook, adding that doctors decided to put the former president on a ventilator "to improve oxygen delivery as well as to prevent the tiring of his respiratory mechanism." "My father has always been a fighter and I hope that with the help of your prayers, he will win this battle," he said. Another Estrada son, former Sen. JV Ejercito, also appealed for prayers, saying in a tweet that "COVID is unpredictable." Estrada, a former action film star and veteran politician, won the presidency in 1998 with one of the largest margins in Philippine elections. But his six-year term was cut short after he faced allegations of plunder and was ousted in January 2001 during massive military-backed protests. He denied the charges, which he said were fabricated by his opponents. A special anti-graft court convicted him of plunder in 2007. His successor and former vice president, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, pardoned him in a move that restored his civil

and political rights and allowed him to make an unsuccessful second run for the presidency in 2010. He won election as mayor of Manila in 2013 and has been out of politics since his term ended in 2019.


UN says death toll now 56 from clashes in Sudan's Darfur

CAIRO (AP)—The death toll from tribal violence in Sudan's Darfur region climbed to at least

56 as sporadic clashes continued on Tuesday, the U.N. said. The violence poses a challenge to efforts by Sudan's transitional government to end decades-long rebellions in areas like Darfur, where conflict often falls along ethnic lines. The latest clashes grew out of a shooting on Saturday that killed two people from the Masalit tribe in a camp for displaced people in Genena, the capital of West Darfur province, according to

the U.N. humanitarian affairs agency. Two others from the Masalit tribe were wounded in that shooting, it said. Fighting ensued between the Rizeigat and the Masalit tribes, with both mobilizing armed men. Gunfire could still be heard in Genena late Monday, the U.N. said. Authorities have declared a state of emergency in West Darfur. The Sudanese doctors' committee in West Darfur, said that at least 132 people were wounded in

the clashes, with some of them needing to be evacuated to the capital, Khartoum, for more advanced medical care. It also said that medical workers were facing difficulties in transporting the wounded due to the presence of armed groups. Adam Regal, a spokesman for a local organization that helps run refugee camps in Darfur, said there were sporadic clashes on Tuesday, after relative calm overnight.



IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

† Margarita Celis Cabrera Torres "Mag"

Born September 7, 1946—Called to her Eternal Life March 25, 2021

In her Eternal life, she now joins:

Husband: †Pedro Wesley Torres

Father: †Leonardo Camacho Cabrera

Mother: †Ignacia Celis Cabrera

Father In-Law: †Jesus Arriola Torres

Mother In-Law: †Francisca Wesley Torres

Sibling: †Remedio Celis Cabrera Diaz
†Diana Celis Cabrera Torres
†Juan Celis Cabrera
†Jose Celis Cabrera

Reared Brother: †Jesus Antonio Teregeyo "Namba"

Brother In-Laws: †Calisto S. Cepeda, †Glenn D. Butteris
†Jose W. Torres, †Juan W. Torres
†Joseph W. Torres, †Malcolm C. Weidner

Her memory lives in the hearts of:

Children

- ✦ Margaret Bertha Torres/Frederick Pangelinan (Tawny Lourdes/Greg Jin, Jerome Jesse/ Diosalyn & family, Blair Judy/Ken & family, Sharon Joanna, Nicole Pangelinan, Britney Pangelinan, Mya Pangelinan)
- ✦ Jacqueline Joan/Joseph Camacho (Kaisha Camille, Joseph Jr. & Family, Pedriane Margaret)
- ✦ Peter Wesley Jr./Trina Torres (Jaylynn Chelsea/Ryan & family, Keona)
- ✦ Jesse Leonard/Gina Lynn Torres (Peter Wesley III, Joseph Lang)
- ✦ Risha Joyce/Joseph Lifofoi (Joseph Jr., Vincent Peter)

Sisters, Brothers, In-laws & Family

- ✦ †Calisto S. & Eugenia C. Cepeda (†Delia & family, Leonora/Filimon Camacho & family, †Elsie Fejeran & family, †Leonard John, Jordonna/Bruce Sonthixay & family, Raymond Cepeda/Zania Fleming & family)
- ✦ †Glenn D. & Victorina C. Butteris (Darrin/Doris Guerrero & family)
- ✦ †Remedio C. & Vicente P. Diaz (Tim Anderson & family, Vicente "Cotch", Adrian, Thomas/Chelsey & family, Kekoa & family)
- ✦ Francisco W. & †Diana C. Torres (Pamela Torres/Rodney Quitugua & family, Jeffrey/Nu'uipeau Torres & family, Kolani Torres/Brian Taijeron & family, Francisco Torres Jr./Jermaine Cabrera & family)
- ✦ †Juan C. Cabrera (Rodney & family, Rowena & family, Lora Jean & family, Juan/Jadine & family, Ignatia Cabrera/Frank Hocog & family)
- ✦ Dolores C. & Juan Camacho (Liela/Don Yumul & family, Peter & family, Nasia/Craig Sanchez & family, Juan Jr. & family)
- ✦ Bernadita C. & Mark Palacios (Velma Palacios/Eric Benavente & family, Marvin/Lani Tarope & family, Franklin, Mark)
- ✦ Pedro C. & Emerina Cabrera (Peonie/Gary Mills & family, Pennie & family, Carla Laguisma & family)

Sisters & Brothers In-Laws & Family

- ✦ †Malcolm C. & Rita T. Weidner (Frances Weidner/Lamont Henderson & Family, Catherine Weidner/Isaac Ngirbabual & family, Kyle Weidner/Jami Starling & family)
- ✦ Jesus W. Torres (Jamie & family, Jenel, Nicole, Vlad)
- ✦ †Juan W. & Barbara Ada Torres (Frances & family, Eric, Audrey Jo Ada)
- ✦ Magdalena W. Torres & Martin C. Tenorio (Peter Paul Maloney, Michelle/Carlos Sablan & family, Tim Maloney & family)
- ✦ †Joseph W. & Rosita C. Torres (Joseph C. Torres/Kristina Springer & family, Robert C. Torres/Jolene Castro & family, Norman)
- ✦ Teresita T. & James Applebaum (Renee/DJ Herrmann & family, Rachel)
- ✦ Mathilde & Lawrence Gozrulak (Jessica/James Serrano & family, Jennifer/Alex Romano & family, Joseph L./Savanah Washington)
- ✦ Margarita T. & Dr. Vicente S. Aldan (Dr. Thomas/Dr. Gloria & family, Vincent/Nika & family, Pomaika'i Aldan/Rachel Reyes & family)
- ✦ Maria T. & Norman Peters (Tabitha Lynn/Devin Raleigh & family, Jason Peters)
- ✦ Roman W. Torres & Bridgit Imaizumi (Audry Torres & family, Ryen Torres, Ashley Torres/Anthony Malwelbug & family, Fermin Torres, Dionne Torres)

Our beloved Margarita is survived by numerous godchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces & nephews.

Daily Mass of intention for the repose of her soul is being celebrated at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 am.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, April 12, 2021. At 8:40am, she will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to Kristo Rai Church. Responso Services and prayers will take place upon arrival. Last respects and final viewing will follow immediately after. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 am followed by Interment Service at the Sanuario PAX Cemetery where she will be peacefully laid to rest.

Un dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase ginen as Margaret Bertha, Jacqueline Joan, Peter Wesley Jr., Jesse Leonard, Risha Joyce yan todu I familia

Life & Style

Vandals damage famous Norwegian baby statue in Oslo park

HELSINKI (AP)—A Norwegian museum said Tuesday that a famous statue of a baby boy stomping his feet in anger has been removed from a park in the capital, Oslo, for repairs after someone vandalized it by trying to saw off its left ankle.

The bronze Sinnataggen sculpture is considered a national treasure and is arguably the most famous work by Norwegian sculptor Gustav Vigeland, who died in 1943 and has also designed the Nobel

Peace Prize medal.

It depicts a small angry boy and was most likely modeled in 1928, the Vigeland Museum said in a statement, adding that “someone tried to saw over the left ankle of the sculpture” early Tuesday.

The statue was removed for conservation, and will be placed back in its original place “as soon as possible.”

“This is damage to a protected cultural monument and the matter will be reported

to the police,” said museum director Jarle Stroemodden. “We want the audience to have close access to the art of Vigeland and it is a pity that this (has happened).”

The Sinnataggen is part of the so called Vigeland Installation—a highly popular tourist attraction in Norway—that consists of dozens of sculptures and larger structures such as bridges and fountains at the Frogner Park close to the center of Oslo.

The bronze Sinnataggen sculpture by the well-known Norwegian sculptor Gustav Vigeland, in Vigelandsparken in Oslo, Tuesday April 6, 2021.

AP



SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

At Disney World, smiles won't be hidden for much longer

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—At Walt Disney World, the smiles won't have to be hidden for much longer. Starting Thursday, visitors to the theme park resort will be able to remove their masks temporarily for outdoor photos, the company said on its website. The change tweaks a requirement that all workers and visitors age 2 and up wear masks except when they are actively eating or drinking, provided they are socially distanced and not moving about. The mask mandate includes those who already have been vaccinated. Workers and visitors have been required to wear masks, get temperature checks upon arriving and follow social distancing markers while in line ever since the Florida theme park resort reopened last summer after closing for more than two months because of the pandemic.

Meghan Markle, Prince Harry reveal first Netflix docuseries

(AP)—Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's first Netflix series will center on the Invictus Games, which gives sick and injured military personnel and veterans the opportunity to compete in sports. The Duke and Duchess of Sussex's Archewell Productions announced Tuesday its first series to hit the streaming service. The multi-episode docuseries, titled “Heart of Invictus,” is in partnership with the Invictus Games Foundation, of which Prince Harry is a patron. Prince Harry will appear on camera and

serve as executive producer on the series. In a statement, producers said the series “will follow a group of extraordinary competitors from around the globe, all service members who have suffered life-changing injuries or illnesses on their road to the Invictus Games The Hague 2020, now set to take place in 2022.” It is the latest in a flurry of activity for the couple. The couple signed a deal to create content for Netflix and are creating podcasts for Spotify. Prince Harry also has joined the corporate world as a leader with the employee coaching and mental health firm BetterUp Inc. The couple have been detangling their lives from the British royal family and are living in California.

Paris Hilton returns to Utah for ceremonial bill signing

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Paris Hilton returned to Salt Lake City Tuesday for a ceremonial bill signing for a law that regulates treatment centers for troubled teens in Utah. The legislation for facilities that treat teens with behavioral and mental health issues gained final approval in the Legislature in early March, about a month after Hilton gave emotional testimony in support of the bill. Gov. Spencer Cox signed the bill last month but held a ceremonial signing with Hilton on Tuesday. The new law will require more government oversight of youth residential treatment centers and documentation for when they use restraints. It will also prohibit treatment centers from using sedation or mechanical restraints without prior authorization.

Man, a steal! Rare Superman comic sells for record \$3.25M

NEW YORK (AP)—One of the few copies of the comic book that introduced Superman to the world has sold for a super-sized, record-setting price.

The issue of Action Comics #1 went for \$3.25 million in a private sale, ComicConnect.com, an online auction and consignment company, announced Tuesday.

It narrowly bested the previous record for the comic, set in the auction of another copy in 2014 for slightly over \$3.2 million.

The comic, published in 1938, “really is the beginning of the superhero genre,” said ComicConnect.com COO Vincent Zurzolo, who brokered the sale.

It told readers about the origins of Superman, how he came to Earth from another planet and went by Clark Kent.

The seller of this particu-

lar issue bought the comic in 2018 for slightly more than \$2 million.

Zurzolo said that while there were hundreds of thousands of copies initially published, it's estimated only about 100 ex-

ist today, and in varying conditions. He said this copy is among the best-kept ones.

“There's no comic book that you could value higher in terms of a comic book than Action Comics #1,” he said.



This photo provided by Metropolis Collectibles on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, shows Vincent Zurzolo, co-owner of ComicConnect, holding Action Comics first edition 1938 comic book marking Superman's first appearance, which has sold for an historic, record-breaking \$3,250,000.

METROPOLIS COLLECTIBLES VIA AP

Pregnancy changes dynamic of women's friendship

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my late 20s, married and happily child-free. My best friend recently became pregnant, and I am having a hard time with it. I don't enjoy children, and it feels like I am losing my best friend. All she wants to talk about is the baby. I've tried hinting that I'll be here when she and her husband need a break from being “Mom and Dad,” but she continues to talk on and on about the all-consuming baby.

I know this is a big change and a huge part of her life, but I also know she has plenty of other support for this child. I would hope she realizes that I do not care for children or wish to be around them. How can I let her know—without offending her—that the last thing I want to hear about are diapers and prams?

CHILD-FREE IN WISCONSIN

DEAR CHILD-FREE: I am sorry you feel so negative about the topics of babies and children, because your intolerance will eventually isolate you from friends and peers. If you voice what you are thinking, you will alienate your best friend, who is rightly thrilled to be embarking on the adventure of parenthood.

Because her talk about babies, diapers and the process she's going through affects you like nails on a chalkboard, limit the conversations and visits you have with her. Do NOT write her off, however, because it is possible that in

time she will be reaching out to you, craving conversation that goes beyond the playpen.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: As the pandemic has forced many to work remotely, I feel certain I'm not the only person with this dilemma. I have been working from home since last March. My fiancé, on the other hand, has a manual labor job in a skilled trade. Abby, it seems like every other day he picks a fight with me because he thinks I should have the house clean, chores done and dinner cooked when he returns from work, despite the fact that I have been working at my job all day.

He equates my being home to me being able to take care of all the chores. He criticizes me and calls me lazy and other names all the time. Regardless of what he thinks, I have a demanding job in an IT field, which is no less demanding because I'm home. It involves numerous conference calls all day.

I have an opportunity now where some of us can come back to the office, but because I have an autoimmune disease, I'm hesitant. Should I go back to the office to keep the peace or remain working from home, which I actually enjoy? I have talked to him about this repeatedly, and it not only doesn't seem to be getting any better, it's getting worse. Your thoughts?

TELECOMMUTING IN FLORIDA

DEAR TELECOMMUTING: Your physical health must come first. If returning to the office will endanger your

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

health, you must stay home and protect it.

Your mental health comes next. Your fiancé appears to be having a chauvinistic fever dream in which he has been transported back to the 1950s. For the last quarter of a century—and more—men have been helping their partners with the “chores” he's harassing you about. If he can't dig deep and find it in his heart to chip in, then for the sake of your health and your sanity, PLEASE rethink this engagement, because it is unhealthy.

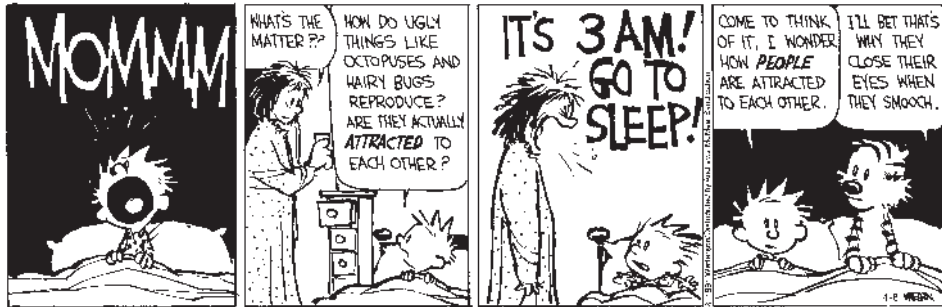
■ ■ ■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Belgrade resident
5 U-boat, for one
8 No neatnik
12 Advertising award
13 — out a living
14 Suffix for billion
15 "Roots" author
16 Brain scan (Abbr.)
17 Sent a dupe to
18 Practiced the tango
20 Plot
22 The whole enchilada
23 Poetic dusk
24 Active one
27 "Please turn on the lights!"
32 City area, for short
33 Refusals
34 Nosh

DOWN

1 Large amount
2 Jazzy
3 Nothing, in Nantes
4 Freight train unit
5 Young plant
6 Guitar's kin
7 Pleads
8 Potpourri bag
9 Driving needs
10 Utah city
11 Eliot's "Adam —"
19 Chicago transport
21 100 yrs. guy
24 Gloomy
25 Tram load
26 "A Christmas Carol" name
28 Iowa college
29 Tax payer, e.g.
30 Hearing thing
31 UFO pilots
36 Most ashen
37 Bio stat
38 "Make it —!"
41 "I see"
42 Blunder
43 Lighten
44 Personnel list
46 500 sheets
47 Idle of Monty Python
48 Actress Merrill
51 Lock opener

Solution time: 24 mins.

R	A	S	H	G	A	M	A	F	A	R
S	I	M	O	I	D	A	T	O	N	
F	O	U	R	S	T	A	R			
S	E	G	A	L	S	O	I	R	E	E
		C	Y	A	N	P	A	L		
F	I	F	E	B	O	H	E	A	M	S
O	N	O	E	L	T	O	N	N	E	A
G	N	U	P	E	C	S	E	X	Y	
		R	B	I	H	E	E	L		
M	A	L	C	E	R	I	T	E	S	
D	U	C	L	F	O	U	R	P	A	R
C	R	A	G	T	A	M	O	R	M	E
C	A	F	E	S	T	P	N	O	A	M

Yesterday's answer 4-8

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Skai Jackson, 19; Taylor Kitsch, 40; Patricia Arquette, 53; Robin Wright, 55.

Happy Birthday: Mull over your objective, and strategize how best to reach your target. Refuse to let others interfere. Taking charge will be your best option this year if you want to change and live life your way. Don't let anger set in when action is required. Let your success be your calling card. Your numbers are 7, 13, 18, 22, 30, 38, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't be fooled by someone's actions. Go directly to the source if you want to get the facts. You have more options than you think. Trust in your ability and judgment. Don't limit what you can do. Speak up on your behalf. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Have patience. Offer an articulate explanation to ensure everyone understands what you are up against and how others can help. Choose your words carefully and maintain moderation moving forward. Don't take a risk when dealing with health, investments or personal matters. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Mixed emotions will confuse you. Listen carefully, and discuss what's expected of you before you take action. Making the right move will help you gain the support and respect of your friends and colleagues. A proposal will capture your attention. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put greater emphasis on creativity and doing things your way. Give others the freedom to do as they please, and you'll avoid interference. A finan-

cial matter will come with limitations. Think twice before you get involved in a joint venture. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Pay attention to what others need, and consider what you can offer. Your generosity can lead to trouble if you go overboard. Someone will take advantage of you if you are too accommodating. Choose personal gain over bailing out someone else. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll come up with a pretty good idea. Bring about a change that will encourage a better lifestyle. It's up to you to make adjustments that offer greater freedom, less stress and a better future. Take better care of your health. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Refuse to let anyone push you in a direction you don't want to go. Set your sights on what's attainable, and channel your energy into bringing about positive change. Share your plans with someone you love and build a brighter future. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use your imagination, and you'll come up with an innovative plan that will improve the way you live and your relationship with someone special. Do the work yourself and stick to a strict budget to avoid financial stress. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Focus on self-improvement. Someone will create emotional confusion. Be careful not to jump to conclusions or take sides in a situation with lots of variables. Ask questions, and refuse to let anyone interfere in your personal affairs. Truth matters. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look for a unique way to use your skills. Expand your knowledge. Incorporate new skills into your resume, but don't pretend that you can do something you can't. Being honest about your capabilities will lead to a better position. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may desire change, but don't let anyone fool you into thinking the grass is greener on the other side of the fence. Look inward and choose self-improvement projects. Improve your relationship with someone special. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Let your emotions, imagination and personal needs lead to positive change. Follow your heart and dreams, and connect with people who share your interests and concerns. Don't waste time arguing with people heading in a different direction. ***

Birthday Baby: You are enthusiastic, outspoken and persistent. You are genuine and playful.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		4		7	9	2		
		8						
3			6				5	1
7						8		
4				8				6
		9						2
8	2				6			7
						5		
		3	5	9		1		

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/08

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	1	8	2	6	5	4	3	9
6	2	4	9	1	3	5	8	7
3	5	9	7	8	4	2	6	1
4	7	5	3	9	2	8	1	6
2	3	1	8	4	6	7	9	5
9	8	6	5	7	1	3	4	2
5	6	7	1	3	8	9	2	4
8	4	2	6	5	9	1	7	3
1	9	3	4	2	7	6	5	8

2012 Daily Logic ★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them. Circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CHINESE LANTERNS ARE BEAUTIFUL.

Solution: 7 letters

N E G P A T T E R N E D R A G
O I L E S S A T N A T U R E N
I E G K K O L A I C E P S R I
T N L H R A C U S T O M E U L
O I D I T A L O N F Y R A T E
M H R M M A P E E H E D L L E
E S A E V S L S P H C U O U F
T Q W O V I T A P R F B E C L
A U N O P I R S A R M B G S A
R A O L V G R F O Y P P A H I
B R O A I A T L S K D C S A R
E E L L T G O O Y S L R S P O
L P L S E C H A L O V E E E M
E A A P R I N T U N O O M A E
C P B I R T H D A Y R O M E M

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4/8

Balloon, Birthday, Calligraphy, Celebrate, Cloud, Colorful, Craft, Culture, Custom, Draw, Dream, Emotion, Feeling, Festival, Flame, Float, Garden, Happy, Lake, Light, Love, Memorial, Memory, Message, Moon, Nature, Night, Oval, Paper, Pattern, Poem, Print, River, Shape, Shine, Silent, Sky, Smile, Sparkle, Special, Sphere, Square, Stars, Symbol, Tassel

Yesterday's Answer: Hesitating

The NEW Treasury 41 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6430.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Soto's single lifts Nationals over Braves in delayed opener



WASHINGTON (AP)—Juan Soto drove in the winning run with a single on a 3-0 pitch in the bottom of the ninth inning Tuesday, lifting the coronavirus-depleted Washington Nationals to a 6-5 comeback victory over the Atlanta Braves after waiting five days to start their season.

Lefty reliever Will Smith (0-1) entered for the ninth and promptly gave up a single to new leadoff hitter Victor Robles, and then hit Trea Turner with a pitch. That brought up Soto, the 2020 NL batting champion, and he delivered a line drive to center field.

Ronald Acuña Jr., Freddie Freeman and Dansby Swanson homered against Washington ace Max Scherzer. Acuña drove Scherzer's first pitch of the game deep to left-center, and led off the third with his second homer.

Turner hit a two-run shot for the Nationals. Daniel Hudson (1-0) got the win.

Because of a COVID-19 outbreak — four players tested positive; seven were forced into quarantine after potentially being exposed — Washington's first four scheduled games were scrapped.

Dodgers 5, Athletics 1

In Oakland, Calif., Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw struck out eight in seven smooth innings to send the Athletics to their worst start in more than a century.

Mookie Betts homered for the first time this season, a towering solo shot to left-center in the ninth. Max Muncy and Edwin Rios also went deep for the World Series champion Dodgers (5-1).

At 0-6, the A's have matched the poorest start in franchise history. The 1916 Philadelphia Athletics also began the season with six consecutive losses.

Oakland and Atlanta (0-4) are the only winless teams in the majors.

Kershaw (1-1) permitted one run and four hits.

Jed Lowrie had two hits and scored Oakland's only run. Chris Bassitt (0-2) gave up four runs in six innings.

Yankees 7, Orioles 2

In New York, Gerrit Cole struck out 13 and walked none over seven scoreless innings in his most dominant start since joining the Yankees.

Cole (1-0) allowed four hits, three of them singles, in the type of the performance that showed why the Yankees made him baseball's highest-paid pitcher in December 2019 with a \$324 million, nine-year contract.

Jay Bruce backed him with his first Yankees home run, a solo shot in the second off Dean Kremer (0-1), and Aaron Judge added a three-run homer in the eighth.

New York has won a team-record 12 straight home games against the Orioles since May 2019, outscoring Baltimore 76-28. It moved above .500 for first time this year at 3-2.

Rio Ruiz hit a two-run homer for Baltimore with two out in the ninth.

Red Sox 6, Rays 5, 12 innings

In Boston, Randy Arozarena got



Washington Nationals' Juan Soto, left, celebrates with manager Dave Martinez after Soto hit a game-winning single in the ninth inning of an opening day baseball game against the Atlanta Braves at Nationals Park, Tuesday, April 6, 2021, in Washington.

twisted around on J.D. Martinez's two-run double with two outs in the 12th inning, lifting Boston to the victory.

The Rays were in line for the win before Christian Vázquez belted Diego Castillo's 0-2 pitch over the Green Monster for a tying homer leading off the ninth.

Martinez had an RBI double in the eighth for the Red Sox, who won their second straight after an 0-3 start.

Tampa Bay has dropped three in a row.

With runners on second and third after a wild pitch by Ryan Thompson (1-1), Martinez hit a fly ball to right. Arozarena twisted around and made a dive back toward the wall as the ball fell over his head for the winning hit.

Phillips Valdez (1-0) got the victory.

Mets 8, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Marcus Stroman tossed six sharp innings in his first start since 2019, sending New York to the win.

Dominic Smith and Pete Alonso each hit a two-run homer for the Mets.

Didi Gregorius hit a solo homer for Philadelphia, which sought its first 5-0 start since 1915.

After sitting out last year due to COVID-19 concerns, Stroman (1-0) didn't miss a step. He allowed one run and three hits.

Phillies starter Chase Anderson (0-1) permitted two runs and two hits over five innings in his first start with his new team.

Padres 3, Giants 1

In San Diego, Victor Caratini hit a tiebreaking two-run homer for San Diego, and Yu Darvish pitched six strong innings.

The Padres won a few hours after getting the news that star shortstop Fernando Tatis Jr. is expected to avoid surgery for now for a partially dislocated left shoulder. Tatis was placed on the 10-day injured list and the Padres didn't set a timeline for his return.

Caratini's first homer with San Diego was a two-run shot to right field off Matt Wisler (0-1) with one out in the seventh.

Keone Kela (1-0) pitched a perfect seventh for the win, and Mark Melancon worked a perfect ninth for his third save.

Astros 4, Angels 2

In Anaheim, Calif., Carlos Correa hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the ninth inning, lifting Houston to the victory.

Kyle Tucker and Aledmys Díaz hit back-to-back homers in the second inning for the Astros, who went an impressive 5-1 on their six-game road trip to start the season amid the incessant booing and jeering they'll hear indefinitely as fans react to their sign-stealing scandal in the 2017 and 2018 seasons.

Mike Trout hit a 464-foot homer in the first inning, but the Angels dropped to 4-2 and failed to match the best six-game start in franchise history. Raisel Iglesias (1-1) got the loss.

Ryan Pressly (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for Houston, getting Justin Upton to ground into a game-ending double play.

Reds 14, Pirates 1

In Cincinnati, Tyler Naquin homered twice and drove in a career-high seven runs, leading Cincinnati to its fourth straight victory.

Rookie Jonathan India had three hits and four RBIs in Cincinnati's latest offensive outburst. Tucker Barnhart and Nick Senzel also had three hits apiece.

The Reds set a franchise record with 46 runs in their first five games. The 1895 and 1976 teams scored 44 runs through five games.

Cincinnati left-hander Wade Miley (1-0) pitched six scoreless innings in his first start of the year.

Phillip Evans homered for Pittsburgh in the seventh. The utilityman also pitched a perfect eighth.

Trevor Cahill (0-1) was tagged for

seven runs and nine hits in four innings in his Pirates debut.

Cardinals 4, Marlins 2

In Miami, Yadier Molina hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly off former batterymate Sandy Alcantara, capping St. Louis' three-run rally in the sixth inning.

Dylan Carlson hit his second homer of the season for an insurance run in the ninth.

Alcantara was traded by St. Louis in a package to Miami for Marcell Ozuna in December 2017, three months after making his major league debut with Molina behind the plate.

The 25-year-old Alcantara (0-1) struck out 10 in six innings. He permitted two earned runs and four hits.

Ryan Helsley (1-0) won in relief and Alex Reyes went 1 1/3 innings for his second save.

Brewers 4, Cubs 0

In Chicago, Freddy Peralta pitched five sharp innings, Travis Shaw hit a three-run homer and Milwaukee stopped a three-game slide.

Peralta (1-0) struck out eight and walked four. Kris Bryant doubled in the fourth for Chicago's only hit of the game. Shaw connected in the first against Adbert Alzolay (0-1), sending an opposite-field drive deep to left-center. Omar Narvaez added a solo drive in the fourth.

Both benches emptied when Brewers reliever Brad Boxberger hit Willson Contreras with a pitch to lead off the Cubs' half of the ninth. Contreras, who was beamed in the helmet on Monday, started yelling and walking toward the mound, but was steered to first base by teammates.

Rangers 7, Blue Jays 4

In Arlington, Texas (AP) — Nate Lowe homered twice for Texas and padded his franchise record for RBIs to start the season with four more.

Lowe was the first Texas player to go deep in front of the home fans at Globe Life Field, lining a two-run shot into the Toronto bullpen in left-center field for a 2-1 lead in the first inning.

Ronald Guzman and Jonah Heim also went deep for the Rangers in their first four-homer game in their year-old ballpark. It was also the first six-homer game in the regular season, with Toronto's Bo Bichette connecting twice.

Lowe's third homer of the season was a two-run drive to center in the third. His 14 RBIs through five games are the most in franchise history and the most in the majors since Chris Davis had 17 for Baltimore in the first five games of 2013.

Dane Dunning (1-0) worked five innings for the win, and Ian Kennedy pitched a perfect ninth for his first save with Texas.

Toronto's Tanner Roark (0-1) gave up five runs in three innings.

Tigers 4, Twins 3, 10 innings

In Detroit, Akil Baddoo added another big hit in this charmed start to his big league career, lining an RBI single in the 10th inning for Detroit.

Baddoo made his debut Sunday and homered on the first pitch thrown to him. Then he hit a grand slam in a 15-6 loss to the Twins on Monday. The rookie entered Tuesday's game as a pinch runner, stayed in to the play the outfield and ended it with a hit to right off Hansel Robles (0-1).

Nelson Cruz and Byron Buxton homered for the Twins, who rallied from a 3-1 deficit.

Gregory Soto (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for Detroit, and the Tigers scored in their half of the 10th.

White Sox 10, Mariners 4

In Seattle, Jose Abreu hammered a grand slam into the second deck for his 200th career home run, Luis Robert and Zack Collins both went deep for the first time this season and the Chicago White Sox beat the Seattle Mariners 10-4 on Tuesday night. The miserable night for the Mariners began when starting pitcher James Paxton left early due to a left elbow injury and continued with a barrage of long balls from the White Sox.

Robert snapped a 3-all tie with a two-run shot off Nick Margevicius in the fifth inning. Collins gave Chicago an early lead and greeted Margevicius (0-1) with a three-run shot in the second after he replaced Paxton.

Abreu provided the capper with the fourth grand slam of his career and second this season with two outs in the eighth off Keynan Middleton.

Diamondbacks 10, Rockies 8

In Denver, Ryan McMahon owned the night on Tuesday, but the Diamondbacks owned the final line.

The Rockies' third baseman blasted three solo homers for a combined 1,247 feet in the series opener against Arizona and tied a franchise record with 14 total bases. But the Diamondbacks prevailed 10-8 anyways after plating three runs off rookie southpaw Ben Bowden in a decisive 13th.

Colorado dropped to 1-4 in the loss at Coors Field. Beyond wasting McMahon's career night at the plate, the defeat also squandered a two-out, ninth-inning homer by Sam Hilliard to force extras as well as RBIs by Josh Fuentes and Garrett Hampson to further extend the game.

Embiid scores 35, 76ers sweep season series with Celtics

BOSTON (AP)— Joel Embiid scored 35 points and the Philadelphia 76ers rolled to a 106-96 win over the Boston Celtics on Tuesday night.

Danny Green added 17 points as the Sixers posted their third straight victory over the Celtics to sweep the season series.

The 76ers have won both games since Embiid returned from a 10-game absence while he recovered from a bruised bone in his left knee. They have won three of four overall.

Philadelphia led by 21 in the second half of the opener of a four-game trip.

Boston was trying for its first three-game win streak since early March. Jayson Tatum led the Celtics with 20 points, and Jaylen Brown finished with 17.

Warriors 122, Bucks 121

In San Francisco, Kelly Oubre Jr. converted a pair of free throws with 7.7 seconds left to give Golden State the lead, and Milwaukee missed at the end.

Stephen Curry made a 3-pointer with 1:06 to play on the way to 41 points with five 3-pointers as his team worked until the final buzzer to snap a three-game losing streak.

Oubre wound up with 19 points and Kent Bazemore scored 18 in just the Warriors' second win in nine games.

Khris Middleton scored 28 points as Milwaukee again missed injured big man Giannis Antetokounmpo. Holiday finished with 29 points and knocked down back-to-back 3-pointers that weren't quite enough.

Antetokounmpo sat out his second straight game with a sore left knee.

Clippers 113,

LEE

From Page 20

after coasting past fellow semis loser Park, gaining a 4-2, 4-2 victory.

Meanwhile, June Yu clinched the title in the boys U14 singles division after a come-from-behind win against Wataru Kadokura.

Despite losing the first set of the finals, 0-6, Yu avenged the setback in the second and third to steal the win from Kadokura with a 6-1, 16-7 win.

The eventual champion also momentarily struggled in the semis against Cody Shimizu, losing the first set 3-5 before gaining momentum in the second, 5-3. Yu delivered the final blow in the super tiebreaker third set, 10-7.

Second placer Kadokura went through a similar semifinal battle against Nason Wessel, losing the first set 4-6, before evening the playing



Philadelphia 76ers center Joel Embiid, right, dunks over Boston Celtics center Luke Kornet (40) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, April 6, 2021, in Boston.

Grizzlies 124, Heat 112

In Miami, Dillon Brooks scored 28 points on 10-for-16 shooting and Memphis ended another Miami losing streak.

Jonas Valanciunas had 20 points and 10 rebounds, Kyle Anderson finished with 19 points and Desmond Bane added 15 points for the Grizzlies, who won their third straight.

Jimmy Butler scored 28 points and Bam Adebayo had 18 for the Heat, who had won their past four. Three weeks ago, Memphis stalled another Miami win streak at five.

Victor Oladipo, in his third game since joining the Heat in a trade with Houston, scored 16 points.

Bulls 113, Pacers 97

In Indianapolis, Nikola Vucevic took advantage of Indiana's missing big men by posting 32 points and 17 rebounds in Chicago's win.

Chicago has won two straight since snapping a six-game losing streak and moved within one game of the Pacers for the No. 9 spot in the Eastern Conference. Vucevic also had five assists while going 14 of 29 from the field. All-Star Zach LaVine added 19 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

Indiana began the game without two-time All-Star Domantas Sabonis (sprained left ankle) and guard Malcolm Brogdon (sore right hip) before losing Myles Turner in the third quarter with a sprained left ankle.

Caris LeVert led the Pacers with 20 points and six rebounds. Edmond Sumner and Jeremy Lamb each scored 15 points as Indiana lost for the ninth time in 10 home games.

Trail Blazers 116

In Los Angeles, Paul George scored 36 points and Los Angeles rode a franchise-best 47-point first quarter to a 133-116 victory over Portland.

Kawhi Leonard added 29 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists as the Clippers followed an 18-point rout of the defending champion Lakers two days ago with another impressive performance.

George shot 11 of 18 and made six 3-pointers. Reggie Jackson added 23 points off the bench.

Norman Powell scored 32 points and CJ McCollum added 24 points for the Blazers, who had their four-game road winning streak snapped. The Clippers harassed Damian Lillard into 2-of-14 shooting for

11 points.

The Clippers scored 47 points in the first quarter, the most in that quarter in franchise history.

Hawks 123, Pelicans 107

In Atlanta, Trae Young scored 30 points and helped lead a third-quarter 3-point barrage as surging Atlanta beat Zion Williamson and New Orleans.

The Hawks sank each of their 11 3-point attempts in the third, including four from Bogdan Bogdanovic, who had 21 points. Atlanta made 20 of 31 3s overall.

Young also had 12 assists. He made three 3s in the third as the Hawks surged to a 107-90 lead.

Kevin Huerter had 17 points for Atlanta, which has won four consecutive games to improve to 13-4 under interim coach Nate McMillan.

Williamson led the Pelicans with 34 points. Lonzo Ball had 12 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds.

Nuggets 134, Pistons 119

In Denver, Nikola Jokic scored 27 points in 27 minutes and Denver spoiled the return of Jerami Grant and Mason Plumlee by shellacking Detroit.

Jokic also dished out 11 assists, his 83rd career double-digit assist game, two more than Wilt Chamberlain had in his Hall of Fame career.

The Nuggets got 25 points from Michael Porter Jr. and 24 from Will Barton. Denver led by as many as 28 before sitting most of its starters early in the second half.

Grant has had a breakout season in Detroit, where he brought a 22.4-point scoring average into Denver. He scored 29 points over 30

minutes to go with Saddiq Bey's 25 points.

Lakers 110, Raptors 101

In Tampa, Fla., Los Angeles built a 34-point lead in the first 20 minutes and cruised past Toronto.

Talen Horton-Tucker led seven Lakers in double figures with 17 points. Markieff Morris scored 15 before leaving the game with five fouls in the third quarter.

Pascal Siakam scored 17 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter for Toronto after hitting just 2 of 11 shots in the first half.

The Lakers' Montrezl Harrell and Toronto's OG Anunoby were ejected with 2:24 left in the first quarter after Dennis Schroder fouled Anunoby's layup attempt. Several players, including Harrell, were involved in an altercation after Schroder and Anunoby squared off.

Analysis: Results vary in NBA with trades, buyouts

Andre Drummond didn't even make it to halftime of his debut with the Lakers before a toenail came off and put the four-time rebounding leader back on the sideline as Los Angeles lost to Milwaukee.

LaMarcus Aldridge's first game in a month, with Brooklyn, was quite a bit smoother — 11 points, nine rebounds and six assists for the former San Antonio player in a breezy win over Charlotte.

Both veterans joined their new teams after taking buyouts, adding to a list of other teams incorporating newcomers after deals before the trading deadline late last month. Some transitions have been rockier than others.

Chicago lost its first four

games after acquiring two-time All-Star Nikola Vucevic from Orlando. Denver is 4-0 since getting Aaron Gordon from the Magic, who pivoted suddenly to a rebuild in an injury-plagued season.

"I wouldn't judge that on the way he played," Bulls guard Tomas Satoransky said Sunday, referring to Vucevic after Chicago ended a six-game losing streak with a 115-107 win over Aldridge and the Nets.

"It takes time to kind of adjust on players that came through and we didn't have practice really before the first game. We're trying to learn from film sessions, in the shootaround, how to play with each other."

Drummond hadn't played

since Feb. 12 with Cleveland when the Lakers, already missing stars LeBron James and Anthony Davis, faced the Bucks on Wednesday.

The 27-year-old felt discomfort in his right foot in the first half, then finally took his shoe and sock off and didn't see a nail on his big toe. Drummond hasn't played since, and still wasn't comfortable before Sunday's 104-86 loss to the Clippers.

The acclimation process will take even longer now for a player who spent weeks in limbo awaiting a buyout.

"It was going to take some time for 'Dre to get acclimated anyway," Markieff Morris said. "We won't see the best of him probably until another

10, 15 games anyway as a player. No matter how much you work out, you don't actually play in an NBA game, you won't be the same."

The Nets are working Aldridge and Blake Griffin, another buyout addition from Detroit, into their rotation while dealing with the on-again, off-again presence of point guard James Harden, who forced a trade from Houston in January.

Kevin Durant has played just once the past two months because of a hamstring issue, leaving Kyrie Irving as the lone Brooklyn star with a consistent presence since January. The next time all five current and former All-Stars play together will be the first. (AP)



Soto's single lifts Nationals over Braves in delayed opener

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Embiid scores 35, 76ers sweep season series with Celtics

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

20 THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021

Lee dominates boys U12 singles



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Si Woo Lee bagged the championship in the boys U12 singles division of the 2021 SIS Student Council Tennis Tournament last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Si Woo Lee, right, came out on top after beating Eamon Tang in the finals of the U12 singles division of the 2021 SIS Student Council Tennis Tournament last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Si Woo Lee bagged the championship in the boys U12 singles division of the 2021 SIS Student Council Tennis Tournament last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Lee came out on top after a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Eamon Tang in the finals.

The division champ gained access to the finals after besting semis opponent Jihun Park, 4-2, 4-2. The latter landed a spot in the Final Four after a 5-4, 12-10 victory over Henry Yeom who trumped Ryan Choi in the first round of the tournament, 5-4, 10-6, to enter the quarterfinals.

Lee also prevailed in his quarterfinals match with a 4-1, 4-2 win over Ian Chae who took an easy 4-0, 5-4 victory over Quido Lucas Jambor in the first round in the bottom half of the draw.



In the top half, runner-up Tang advanced to the quarterfinals after an easy 6-0, 6-1 victory over Taher Shakir before battling Yutaka Kadokura. Tang had a rough first set, losing 1-4 in favor of Kadokura before picking up the slack in the final two sets to gain a 5-3, 10-7 win to enter the Final Four.

Tang later moved on to secure the finals seat with a 7-6, 4-2 win over Ki Won Lee who made it to the Final Four after a 4-0, 10-7 win against Stephen Yeom.

Lee completed the Top 3

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Close race for M-League Golden Boot

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Paire Football Club's Eric Barajas currently holds a slight advantage in the Golden Boot race of the M-League Spring 2021 season.

After five matches at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville, Barajas has recorded seven goals and is so far in the lead for the Golden Boot award.

Barajas made it to the board in all but two of Paire's matches, with his best scoring output seen in the team's 5-0 destruction of The One last Feb. 28 after tallying three goals. Barajas also carried his team in their second match of the season where they pummeled Old B Bank, 5-0, scoring three of the team's winning goals.

And to think Barajas didn't even make it to the board in Paire's third and fifth game, but restarted his goal spree in the fourth game, where Paire eased past the U18 Boys National Team B, 2-0, making one of the team's goals.

However, the race for the Golden Boot remains a close one with TanHoldings FC's Mark Esalan recording six goals after five games.

Esalan contributed two goals to THFC's first win back in Feb. 28 where the season's leading team crushed NMI U18 B, 6-2. Esalan was absent on the board for the following game, but made a comeback in the March 14 match where he scored two of the teams six goals to ease past The One. Esalan was silent again on the March 21 game, but returned with the vengeance with two goals in their match against Old B Bank, 5-0.

The NMI U18 Team A's Kaden Church joins Esalan and Barajas in the Top 3 for the battle for the Golden Boot award after finding the back of the net four times this season.

Church delivered one goal in their 5-0 win over The One last March 7 and one piece in its 3-1 victory against Paire. However, Church showed his best scoring output in the 5-0 win over Old B Bank, contributing two of the team's winning goals.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Paire Football Club's Eric Barajas currently holds the lead in Golden Boot race of the M-League Spring 2021 season.